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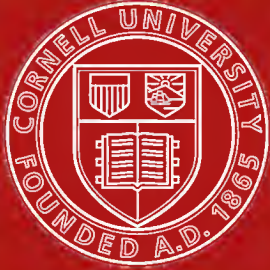
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Early New York houses.



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1750



EARLY
NEW YORK
HOVSES

1900



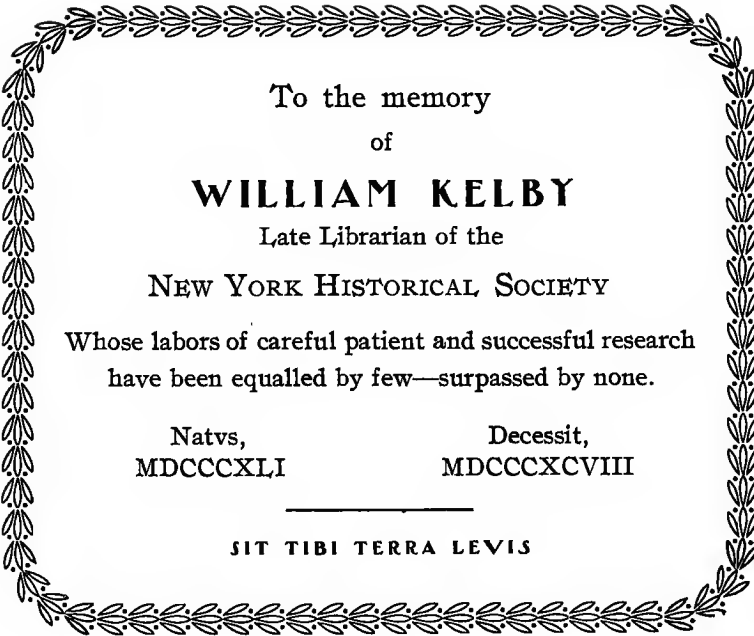
MOLLER

EARLY NEW YORK HOUSES
WITH HISTORICAL & GEN-
EALOGICAL NOTES BY ~
WILLIAM S. PELLETREAV, A.M.
PHOTOGRAPHS OF OLD HOUSES
& ORIGINAL ILLUSTRATIONS BY
C.G. MOLLER, JR. √√√√√√√√√√



IN TEN PARTS

FRANCIS P. HARPER, PUBLISHER
NEW YORK, A.D. 1900 √√√√√√√√√√



To the memory
of
WILLIAM KELBY

Late Librarian of the
NEW YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Whose labors of careful patient and successful research
have been equalled by few—surpassed by none.

Natus,
MDCCCXLI

Decessit,
MDCCCXCVIII

SIT TIBI TERRA LEVIS



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IN the preparation of this work the writer has had but one end in view. To preserve for future generations a correct representation of various places of interest which no longer exist, but whose history must ever be a valuable and interesting portion of the history of the city. There are many buildings of great interest which are not found in this work, for the reason that they have been reproduced so many times that they are familiar to all students. The most of the views here given are not accessible to the general public. The writer ventures to hope that the description attached to the various views will add something to the knowledge of the reader, and if it will be the means of exciting fresh interest in the study of local history, his greatest desire will be realized. We wish to express our sincere thanks for assistance furnished in the preparation of this work, especially to Mr. August Belmont, Mr. Gustav H. Schwab and to Mr. C. G. Moller, Jr., to whose facile pencil we are indebted for some of the most interesting illustrations.

INTRODUCTION

We do not feel called upon to make any apology for minuteness in some of the descriptions.

One of the failures of most our local histories is to designate exactly where an ancient building stood. If any one feels inclined to doubt this, let him endeavor to locate the site of almost any important building of the past from what he can find in printed books.

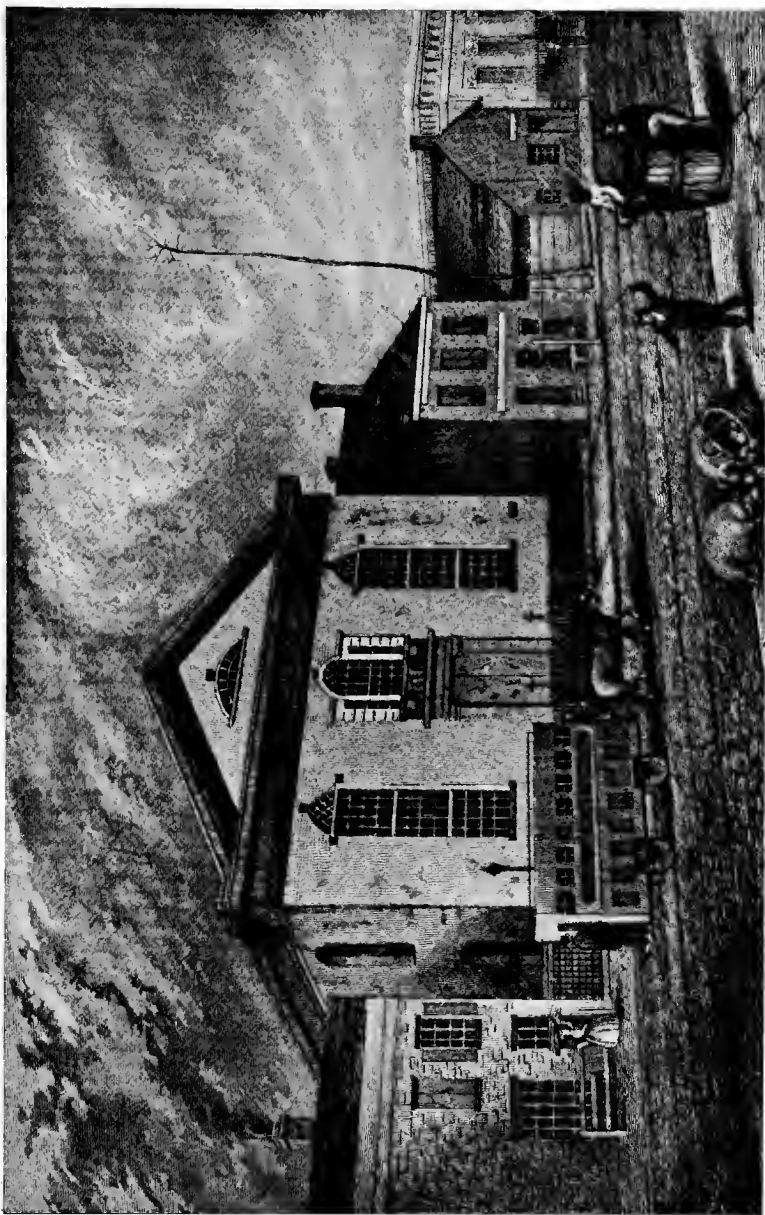
In giving values and prices of houses and lands in the last century, the reader will remember that the "pound" was New York currency and equalled \$2.50, the Spanish dollar, of which our own is the successor, being valued at eight shillings.

WILLIAM S. PELLETREAU.

New York, June 1, 1900.



No. 1. ST. PHILLIP'S CHURCH.



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IN TEN PARTS
PART I

FRANCIS P. HARPER, PUBLISHER
NEW YORK, A.D. 1900 ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~



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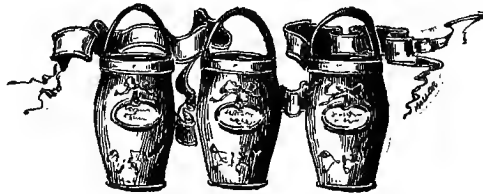
ST. PHILLIP'S CHURCH, CENTRE STREET



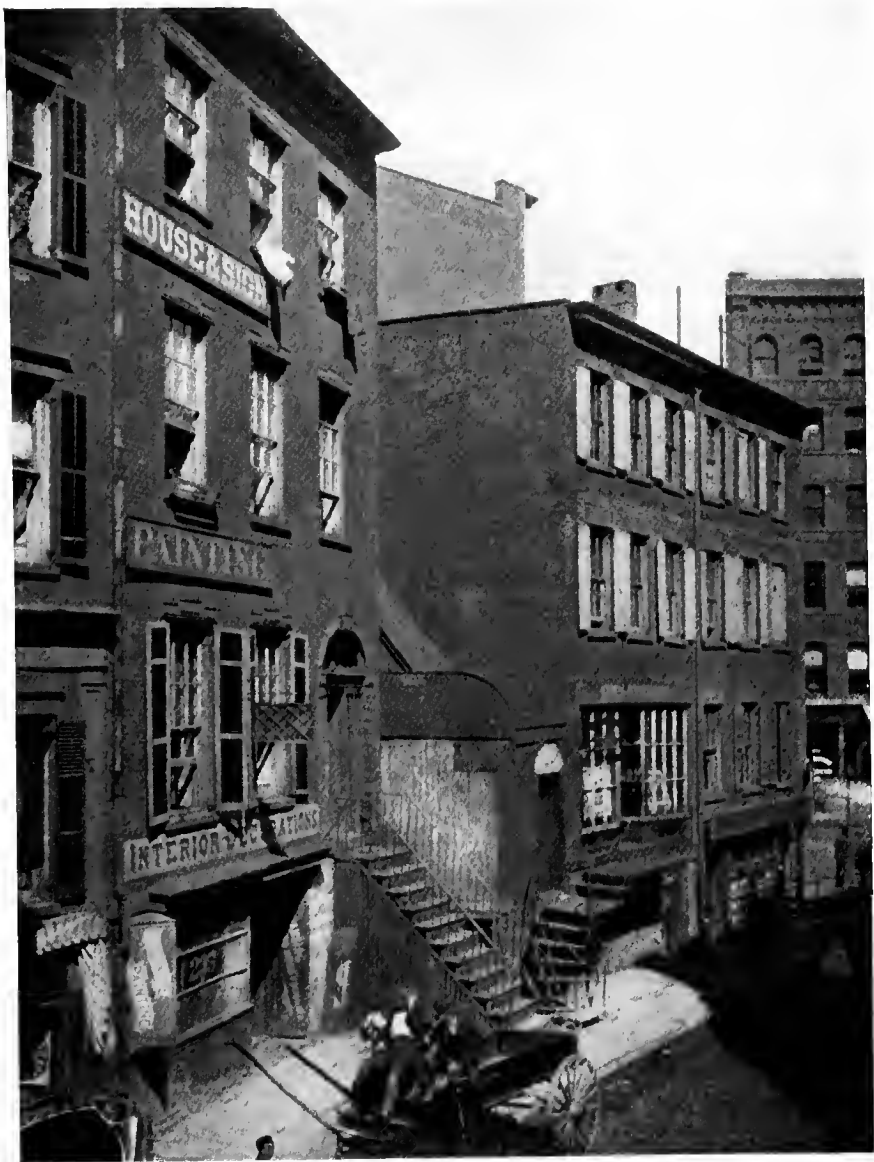
IN the early days of New York, there was on the outskirts of the city, a small lake or pond, known as the "Fresh Water." A steep shore on the west side was called the "Kalck Hook," and the water was sometimes called the "Kalck Hook Pond." This name was changed or corrupted into "Collect." In later years the pond was filled up and the land thus formed belonged to the city, and was divided into lots called the "Collect Lots," which were sold to various parties. A large number of these lots were sold to George Lorillard. On June 25, 1818, he gave a perpetual lease for three of these lots, No. 18-19-20, to John Marander, John Bees, Andrew Rankin, Thomas Zabriskie, John Kent, Wm. Hutson, Samuel Class, and Linn Frances. These were all colored men, and organized an African Church. They resolved to join the Episcopal Church, and the Bishop of the diocese issued the following: "Whereas the Trustees of the African Congregation, who have erected a building for public worship, have dedicated the same to the worship of

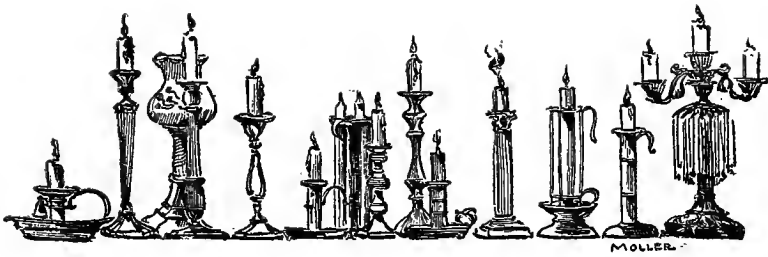
EARLY NEW YORK HOUSES

Almighty God, according to the rules of the Protestant Episcopal Church, be it known that on the 3d day of July, 1819, I, John Henry Hobart, Bishop, have consecrated the building erected in Collect street, by the name of St. Phillip's Church." Under the fostering care of the bishop and diocese the church flourished and its membership increased, and retained this building as their place of worship till about 1860, when they purchased the Methodist Episcopal Church, on Mulberry street. The same congregation now worship in a very commodious edifice on Twenty-fifth street. Collect street was afterwards changed to Centre street. The view here presented shows the entire front between Leonard and Duane streets. The front line of the lots of St. Phillip's Church was sixty-three feet. The building was fifty feet in width. The first church was burned in 1819, and the view shows the new church, erected soon after. The other buildings shown in the engraving were erected by various parties who leased lots from George Lorillard, the whole presenting an accurate view of the street as it appeared about 1830. The sight of the swine "embracing his opportunity" was very characteristic of that time, when these animals were suffered to roam at large. All the buildings have disappeared, and others more convenient, if not more picturesque, have taken their places.

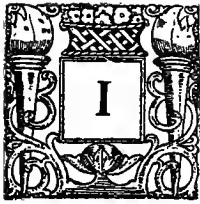


No. 2. OLD HOUSES ON MONKEY HILL.





OLD HOUSES ON "MONKEY HILL"



IN the early days before "city improvements" were thought of, there was, in the vicinity of what is now the corner of William and Duane streets, an elevation of land known by the popular name of "Monkey Hill." The land all around it was a part of the Commons of the city, and was at a later day divided into lots, known as Corporation lots, and sold and leased to various parties. The lots on the corner mentioned were sold to the Townsend family and have descended from father to son down to the present time. When "Monkey Hill" was leveled and the present street grade adopted, the buildings were left high in air, and houses that had formerly been entered directly from the street, then required a flight of stairs to reach the entrance.

The corner building, No. 235, 237, 239 William street, had quite a popularity, some fifty years ago, as the "Truckmen's Hotel." In the open space on Duane street stood a pump which supplied most excellent water, which was highly appreciated. The story goes that in this vicinity lived the

EARLY NEW YORK HOUSES

famous author of "The Old Oaken Bucket." He frequently passed through William street, and on one occasion, upon a particularly warm day, he stopped to refresh himself at this corner pump. His companion remarking upon the excellence of the water, the poet replied, "yes, but it does not taste like that I used to get from the old oaken bucket at home." Being thus inspired, he wrote the immortal poem upon which his fame principally rests.

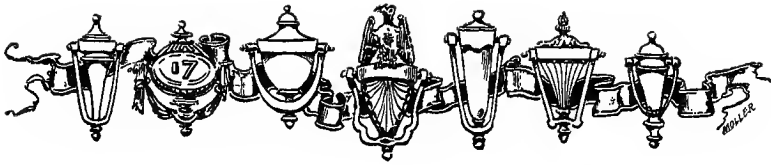
The original buildings that stood here were somewhat remodeled when the street level was changed, but in 1894, they were taken down, and a large building, for business purposes, now occupies their place. The Duane street house, now No. 12 Duane street, was a three-story brick building with an old-fashioned attic and gabled roof. The William street house was a four-story brick building with brown stone trimmings and an old colonial doorway with side columns and a high arched fanlight. It was built about 1800, and was one of the elegant residences of the old Fourth Ward. It then looked upon gardens and green fields. The house No. 12 Duane street was built about 1810, and here was born Benjamin Townsend, the father of Sherman B. Townsend, the present owner of the property.



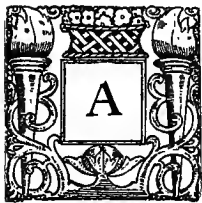
RELIQS OF OLD MONKEY HILL

NO. 3. THE OLDEST HOUSES ON LAFAYETTE PLACE.





THE OLDEST HOUSES IN LAFAYETTE PLACE



WAY back in the times called by the veracious historian, Diedrich Knickerbocker, the "Dutch Dynasty," there was a tract of vacant land very far from the city. It was divided into lots and given to some free negroes. One of these lots was granted to Solomon Peters, and fronted on the Bowery lane, and included the land between Bleeker street and a point about half way between Third and Fourth streets. This afterwards came into the possession of Elbert Herring and formed a part of that large tract afterwards well-known as the "Herring Farm." Next north, was a lot granted to Otto Grim, and next to him came the lot of Francisco Carthagene, and this extended to what was called, in the ancient times, "the road from the Bowery lane over the Sand Hills to Greenwich"—a part of it is Astor Place. In 1754, the lot of Otto Grim was sold to Yellis Mandeville; he had a daughter who married Matthew Buys, and this lot was given to them as a wedding gift. After their death the lot was divided among their five children, one of whom was

EARLY NEW YORK HOUSES

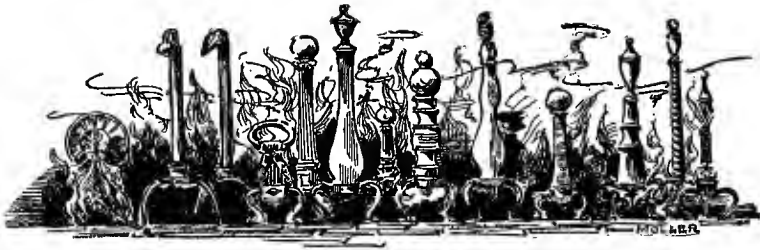
Mary, wife of William Waldron. Her lot was the south part of the tract, and was next to that part of the "Herring Farm" then owned by Samuel Jones, after whom "Great Jones Street" was named. Lafayette Place was opened in 1826, and Mary Waldron gave a lot to each of her two daughters, Maria, wife of William F. Higgins, and Cornelia Waldron. On these lots they built two houses exactly alike, and they were the first houses built on Lafayette Place and are still standing. They were built according to the ancient custom, when a wide dooryard was considered a necessary adjunct to houses "in the country."

Lafayette Place, in a few years, became one of the most fashionable portions of the city, and the most aristocratic families became their near neighbors, but through all the various changes the Waldrons' houses remained the same. Cornelia Waldron and her sister were living as late as 1854, and the houses still remain in the occupation of their heirs. They are the only houses between the Bowery and Broadway that are occupied by families, the direct descendants of the builders, and whose ancestors owned the land fifty years before the Revolution; but the very nature of their surroundings, and the rapid changes that are taking place in this portion of the city, show that very soon they too will pass away.

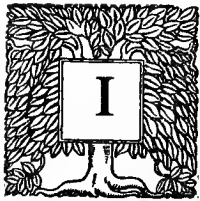


NO. 4. THE SITE OF CAPTAIN KIDD'S HOUSE.





THE SITE OF CAPT. KIDD'S HOUSE



IN the year 1688 there were almost as many buildings on the south side of Wall street as there are now, for every lot seems to have had a house on it, but on the north side there was not a single one. On the south side of the line of palisades or "city wall," was a narrow street called the "Cingle," which being widened is now called Wall street. All the land on the north side of the street was purchased by Governor Thomas Dongan, when there was no longer any need for the city wall. The fortifications were removed and Wall street opened as it is at present. On May 19, 1688, Governor Dongan sold to "George Browne, malster," a lot which is described as "being on ye northeast side of ye city, on ye north east side of ye street called ye Wall street." It was twenty-five feet wide and 112 feet long on the west side, and 111 feet on the east. This was a perpetual lease, the annual rent being "one pepper corne." This was the first house lot sold on the north side of Wall street, and on it George Browne built the first dwelling house. He did not

EARLY NEW YORK HOUSES

keep it long, but on March 13, 1689, he sold it to William Cox, a wealthy merchant, for £60. William Cox was drowned off Staten Island, in August, 1689, and left the house and lot to his wife Sarah, who afterwards married Capt. William Kidd. Here Capt. Kidd made his home till January 27, 1694, when he and his wife sold it to "John Watson, "butcher." Wall street property must have been "looking up," for they obtained for this house and lot the sum of £130. After this it passed through many hands. John Watson left it to his step-children, who sold it to David Provost, in 1703. In 1785, it was bought by William Denning, a very prominent citizen, whose monument may be seen in the northwest corner of St. Paul's Church yard. In 1828, it was sold to the "Traders' Insurance Company," and they erected the building now standing, and of which a view is given. In 1836, it was sold to the "Commercial Insurance Company." At that time it was number 44 Wall street., but the numbers having been changed, it is now No. 56, and is directly opposite Hanover street. In 1839, it was sold for \$100,000, but in 1847, it was bought by Wm. S. Wetmore for \$80,000, and it is now owned by his descendants.

It is a very curious fact that of all the men who were living in New York at the close of the seventeenth century, the only one who has left a deep impression upon the popular mind was Capt. William Kidd.



No. 5. OLD HOUSES ON YORK STREET.





OLD HOUSES ON YORK STREET



YORK street is a short street running west from West Broadway to St. John's lane, and is directly in the rear of St. John's Episcopal Church of which a view is given. This street is on the old "Lispenard Farm," and when it was first opened it was called Hubert street, and afterwards Hudson street, but as these names confounded it with two other streets with the same titles, it was changed to its present name. On September 1st, 1803, Anthony Lispenard sold to Samuel Jones, the entire block bounded north by Laight street, east by Chapel street, (now West Broadway), south by Hubert street, (now York), and west by St. John's lane, which was the boundary between the Lispenard farm and the land of Trinity Church, the price was \$11,000. Samuel Jones divided it into lots and made a map of the same, on which the lots 1 to 9 were on the north side of York street. In 1823 Charles W. Sandford bought lots 3, 5, 6, 8 and on these and some of the lots adjoining were erected a row of small quaint looking houses of which

EARLY NEW YORK HOUSES

two alone now remain. They were intended for a class of people who were able only to lease or purchase houses in the outskirts of the city.

When St. John's Church was erected, it was considered too far remote, but upon the laying out of St. John's Park, the lots adjoining were soon purchased by wealthy and respectable families and it became an aristocratic neighborhood. This distinction, however, never extended to York street, and the row of small cheap houses remained as they were first erected till within a very few years. On the south side of the street, next to St. John's lane, is a small wooden building which was once used as a Baptist church, built by a small body of seceders from one of the earlier churches. At the present time, (fallen from its high estate), it is occupied by Italian rag pickers. The land on the south side of the street after many changes is now owned by the Lorillard family.

The present year will doubtless see the last of the old houses in York street.



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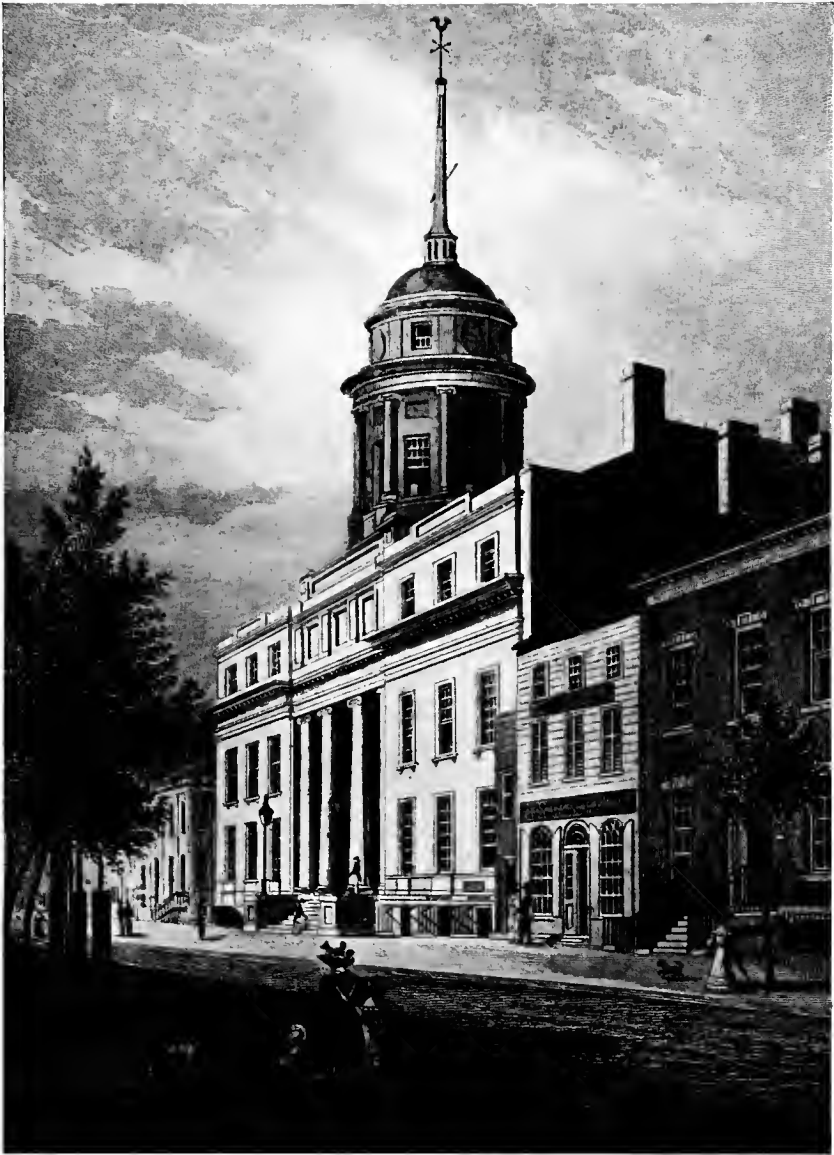
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PART II

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NO. 6. THE MERCHANTS' EXCHANGE.





THE MERCHANTS' EXCHANGE



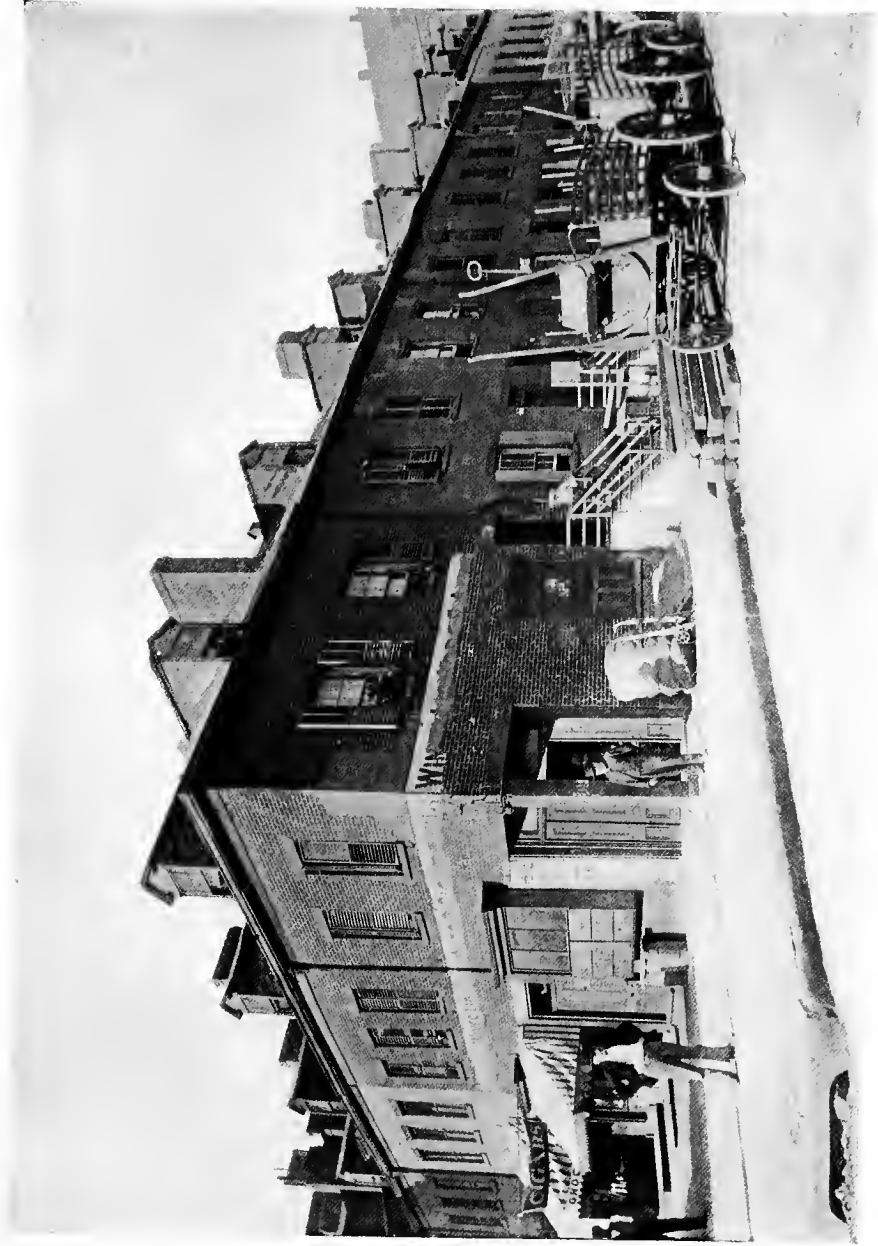
IN the early days of New York, there stood at the foot of Broad street, a large building with its lower story entirely open to the weather. This was the "Exchange" of that day, and the street adjoining took the name of "Exchange street." In 1824, a number of prominent merchants organized as the "Merchants Exchange Company." In 1809, Thomas Buchanan, a wealthy merchant of his time, purchased from William Leffingwell, what was then Nos. 37-39 Wall street. He also bought of Daniel McCormick, No. 41, and of David Van Horne, a lot next east. The whole making a front on the south side of Wall street of 112 feet. The heirs of Thomas Buchanan sold these lots to the "Merchants' Exchange Company," June 1, 1824, and upon them they erected the building of which a view is given, and which was by far the most important business building in the city. The great fire of 1835 destroyed this elegant structure and the Company resolved to rebuild on a much larger scale, and in 1836 they erected the building now so well known as the

EARLY NEW YORK HOUSES

United States Custom House. For this purpose they purchased all the lots and houses between the former Exchange and William street. Two of these houses are represented in the engraving. The one next to the Exchange belonged to the heirs of Jacobus Roosevelt, who purchased the lot (and also the one next east upon which a part of the Exchange stood), from Samuel Bayard, in 1735. It was sold by the heirs to the Exchange Company, in 1836. At that time the frame building was one of the oldest in Wall street. The house on the extreme right stood on a lot which, in the time of the Revolution, was owned by Thomas White, who, through his tory proclivities, came near losing his property by confiscation. His wife, Ann White, held the estate and her heirs sold it to the Fulton Fire Insurance Company, in 1828. They erected the building seen in the view, and it was sold by the Receiver of the Company to the Exchange Company, in 1836, for \$40,100, which was doubtless a good price for Wall street property at that time. It was then No. 33, the lot being twenty-eight feet, two inches. In 1749, the lot was owned by Peter DeGrove, and its width was thirty feet, "Dutch wood measure." In the rotunda of the old Exchange stood the statue of Alexander Hamilton. It was found impossible to rescue it and it was destroyed with the building.



Nó. 7. OLD HOUSES CORNER WATTS AND HUDSON STREETS.





OLD HOUSES CORNER OF WATTS AND HUDSON STREETS

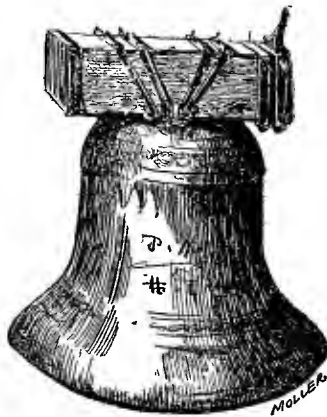


THE land upon which these houses stand is a part of the Lispenard Farm, and with many other lots in the vicinity, fell to the share of Sarah Stewart, wife of Alexander L. Stewart. On June 28, 1818, they leased to William Langham, a large lot, bounded west by Hudson street, and south by Watts, the west front being seventy-eight feet, and the south 114 feet. Upon this lot William Langham built nine two-story houses, which are still standing and are a good sample of the cheaper class of houses built at that time. On August 25, 1819, he sold the houses and lease (which was for twenty-one years, at an annual ground rent of \$420), to Samuel Brown and Edward Junet, for \$10,500, subject to a small mortgage. The cost of building these houses is supposed to have been about \$900 each. The view represents them as they were standing July 24, 1893, but at the present time they remain unchanged. They are inhabited mostly by Italians, who carry on some small business in the lower rooms, while the upper stories are devoted to family

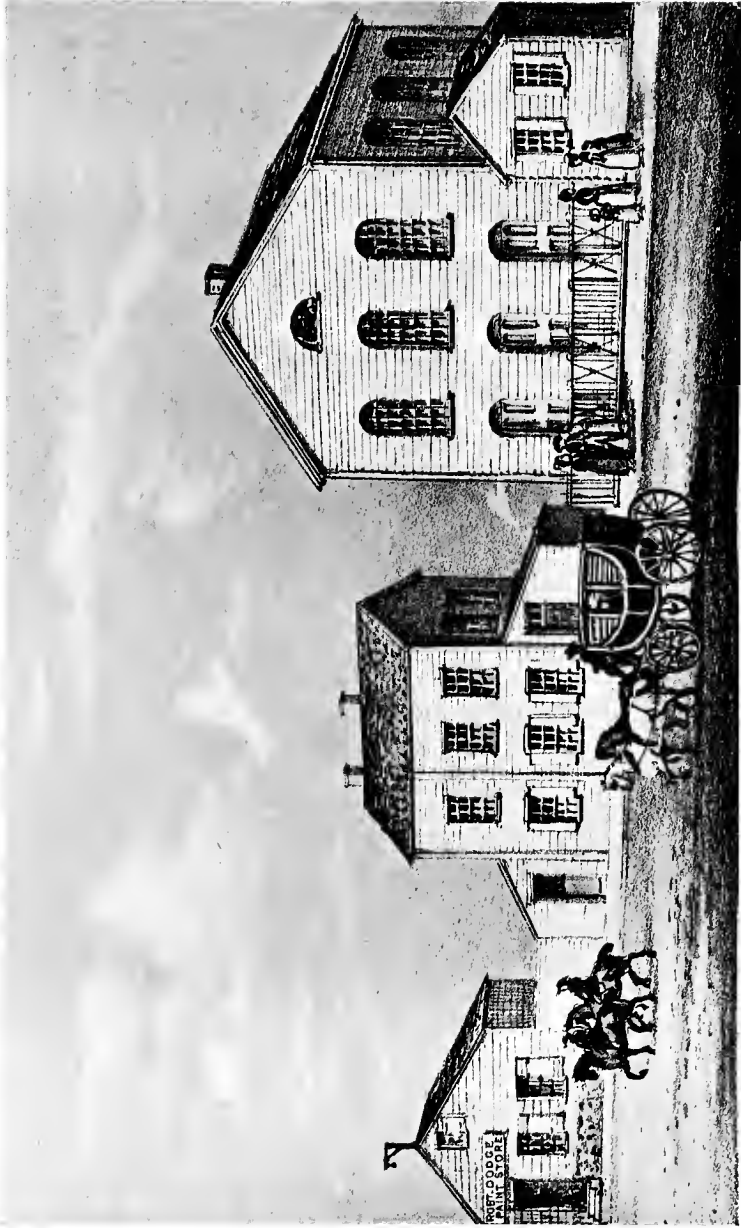
EARLY NEW YORK HOUSES

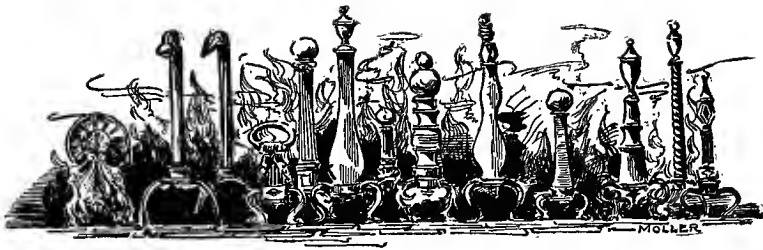
living. In proportion to their cost they pay a larger rent than many far more fashionable residences.

When these lots were laid out they were (contrary to a very common opinion), carefully restricted. It was stipulated in the deeds that no foundry, blacksmith shop, slaughter house, boiler factory, manufactory of glue, or any other business that would be noxious or offensive to the neighbors or community should be erected or suffered to exist on the premises. These restrictions were, of course, intended to attract a very desirable class of tenants and purchasers. The change of population has been so marked, that it is quite certain, that if all these nuisances were in full blast, they would not disturb the present residents of the neighborhood of Watts and Hudson streets.

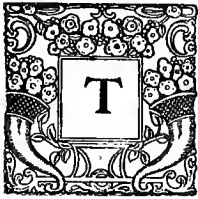


No. 8. BAPTIST CHURCH, FAYETTE STREET, 1808.





BAPTIST CHURCH ON FAYETTE STREET, 1808



THE denomination of Baptists first established that doctrine in New York about 1709. With the exception of their characteristic mode of baptism, there seems to have been very little similarity of doctrine to those of the present Baptist church, and they were, in fact, Arminians. The new sect flourished for a few years and built a small meeting house on "Golden Hill." This building, the first Baptist church in New York, stood on the west side of Cliff street, ninety feet north of John street, which, in early times, was called Van Cliff street. This church was occupied till 1731, when the society was dissolved, and the building was sold by one of the Trustees as his own property. It is said to have been standing as late as 1794.

The society, under other preachers, revived about 1745. On February 10, 1759, "Nathaniel Sloo, mariner," sold to "John Carman, cartman; Samuel Edmonds, brick layer; and Samuel Dodge, house carpenter," as "trustees and overseers of the Baptist Protestant Dissenters," a lot on the west

EARLY NEW YORK HOUSES

side of Gold street, a little south of Fulton street, and directly opposite Eden's Alley, upon this lot was erected the second Baptist meeting house. The society was incorporated as the First Baptist Church, in 1789. A branch of the society was organized as the "Second Baptist Church," and on June 30, 1799, Henry Rutgers sold to them two lots on the ancient farm of Hendrich Rutgers, and bounded west by "Fayette street." This street has long since disappeared from the city map. In 1819, when Oliver street was extended from Bancker street (now Madison), to Chatham square, the old Fayette street was closed and sold to adjoining owners. The present Mariners' Temple, on Oliver street, stands on the old Fayette street. Upon the lots above mentioned, was built the third Baptist Church, more generally known as the Oliver Street Baptist Church, the most famous and prosperous church of the denomination in the city. The first edifice, of which a view is given, was a small wooden building in a style of the most primitive simplicity. This building remained until 1819, when it was destroyed, and a much larger and more elegant church, built of stone, was erected in its place.

In the earliest days of New York there was a wind mill that stood very near the site of that church, and is mentioned several times in ancient deeds. It was owned by Nicholas De Meyer. Opposite that was the Jews burying ground, a small portion of which still remains, fronting the "New Bowery." Fayette street was its eastern boundary.

This vicinity, though somewhat thickly inhabited, was never a fashionable neighborhood, and the style of buildings was distinguished for cheapness, and want of durability.

No. 9. "NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS HOUSE."





THE HOUSE IN WHICH "THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS" WAS WRITTEN



No poem ever written by an American, has been so universally read and admired, as "The visit of St. Nicholas." Its honored author Clement C. Moore, LL.D., was the only child of Right Reverend Benjamin Moore, Bishop of New York. In the early part of this century there was standing on the banks of the Hudson river where Ninth avenue and Twenty-third street now are, a beautiful mansion with most picturesque surroundings. This had been the home of Major Thomas Clarke, a retired officer of the British army, who built an elegant residence and called it "Chelsea," his house was burned about the time of the revolution and its owner who died soon after, was with difficulty rescued from the flames, the mansion was soon rebuilt by his widow. They were the parents of Charity Clarke, who married Bishop Moore, and in this elegant mansion on July 15, 1781, was born the famous author of "The Night Before Christmas." The author was not only a poet, but a learned student of ancient languages. He was a graduate of Columbia College and blessed with all

EARLY NEW YORK HOUSES

the advantages that wealth and an honored lineage could bestow. He wrote the the first Hebrew Lexicon ever published in America, and did much to render the study of that language easier to the student of the Holy Scriptures. In 1818, Dr. Moore presented to the Episcopal Theological Seminary, the entire block of ground bounded by Ninth avenue, twentieth and twenty-first streets and the Hudson river, and upon this the splendid Seminary buildings are erected.

“The Night Before Christmas” was written by Dr. Moore, in 1822, and intended for a Christmas gift to his children. They were copied by a young lady who was visiting the family, and upon her return to her home in the city of Troy, she sent it to an editor and it was printed for the first time in the “Troy Sentinel,” December 23, 1823. A little picture was attached showing St. Nicholas and his sled and “tiny reindeer,” a spectacle ever dear to the minds of children. It attracted immediate attention and has ever since been famous.

The mansion, of which a view is given, stood between Twenty-second and Twenty-third streets, about two hundred feet west of Ninth avenue. It stood on a high bank that overlooked the river. The rapid advance of the great city soon made it undesirable as a place of residence, and in 1850, the venerable mansion was destroyed, and the hill, leveled to its base, has gone to fill up the water lots on the avenues far beyond. There is an added interest given to this view from the fact that it is from a sketch made by Clement C. Moore, a grandson of the famous author. The view is from the southwest.

No. 10. FRANKLIN SQUARE IN 1856.





FRANKLIN SQUARE, IN 1856



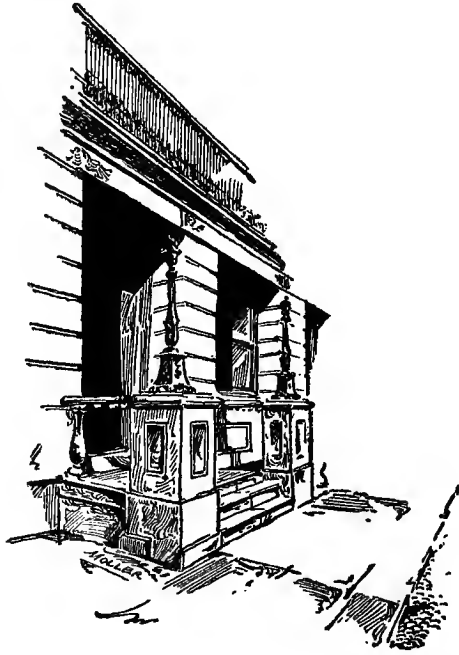
IN the last century, the space at the junction of Pearl and Cherry streets was known as "St. George's Square." It was an aristocratic part of the city, and here were the houses of very prominent citizens—the famous "Walton House" being one of them. On March 17, 1817, the Board of Aldermen resolved, "That the square now called St. George's square, at the intersection of Cherry street, be hereafter named and called Franklin square, as a testimony of the high respect entertained by the Board for the literary and philanthropical character of the late Doctor Benjamin Franklin." Pearl street, north of this square, was, in ancient times, known as "the road that leads from Queen street towards the Fresh Water." The junction of Pearl and Cherry streets was originally a point opposite Dover street. There were two or three small buildings upon it, and at the apex was a fire engine house. These buildings were bought by the city in 1819, and torn down and the square opened as it now is.

EARLY NEW YORK HOUSES

At what is now the junction of the two streets was a large lot, which in 1762 was sold by the heirs of Robert Benson to Walter Franklin, a wealthy merchant in the revolutionary days. Upon this lot he erected a large mansion, one of the most elegant in the city, and was at one time the residence of General Washington when president. After the death of Walter Franklin, this house and the land adjoining fell to his daughter Hannah, who married George Clinton, a younger brother of Governor De Witt Clinton. When Franklin Square was opened, the lots taken left this mansion fronting both on Cherry street and on the square. The large house on the right, in the view, was the original house of Walter Franklin, whose widow married Samuel Osgood, and they resided there for many years. In 1816 it was the temporary residence of De Witt Clinton. The large house on the left was built by Hannah Clinton, and there she and her husband resided. After the death of Hannah Clinton the two houses owned by her heirs remained unchanged till 1856, when they were taken down and replaced by stores. To build these stores they borrowed a large sum of money of Robert R. Morris, giving a mortgage as security. The operation was not profitable. They were sold as foreclosure to the mortgagee, January 29, 1862. The greater part of the property remained in his hands till the time of the building of the Brooklyn Bridge, when the whole was sold to the Bridge Commissioners. The stores were cut down to one story in height, as they now remain. It is needless to state that the tablet on one of the abutments of the bridge, stating that on that site stood the house in which Washington resided, is entirely out of place.

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In numbering Cherry street the odd numbers were originally on the north side, but about 1836 the street was renumbered and the odd numbers are now on the south side. An ignorance of this fact may have been the cause of the tablet being placed in its erroneous position. Where the abutment of the bridge now stands was originally some small buildings owned in the early part of the century by Samuel Osgood. At the time the Franklin mansion was occupied by General Washington—it was No. 3 Cherry street. The widow of Walter Franklin married Samuel Osgood, a very prominent and influential citizen.



EARLY NEW YORK HOUSES
WITH HISTORICAL & GEN-
EALOGICAL NOTES BY ~
WILLIAM S. PELLETREAV, A.M.
PHOTOGRAPHS OF OLD HOUSES
& ORIGINAL ILLUSTRATIONS BY
C.G. MOLLER, JR. √√√√√√√√√√



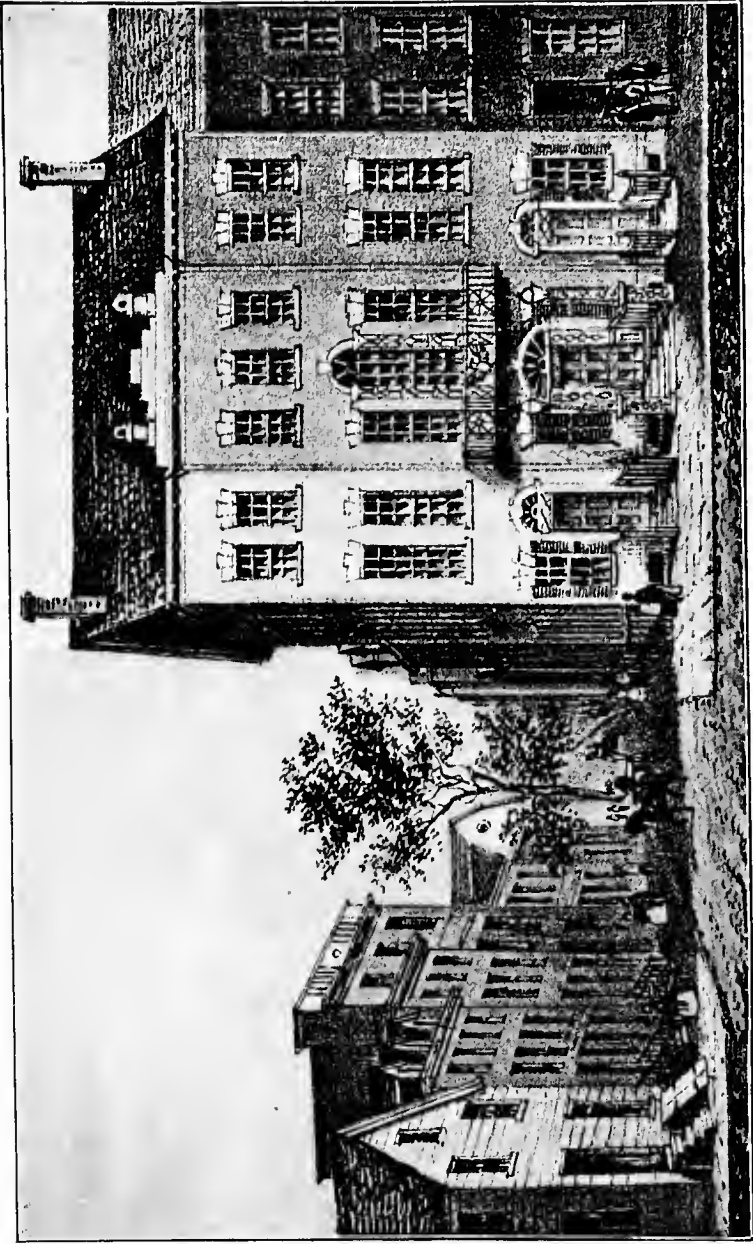
IN TEN PARTS
PART III

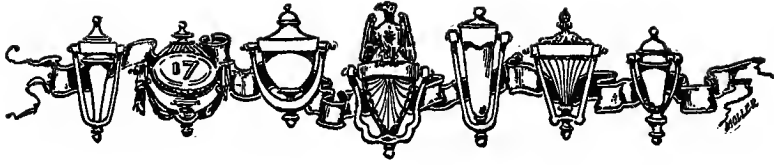
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NEW YORK, A.D. 1900 √√√√√√√√√√



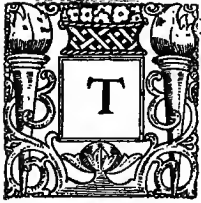
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No. 11. FIRST TAMMANY HALL.





THE FIRST TAMMANY HALL



THE land on the south side of Frankfort street on which the "Sun" building now stands, is a part of the farm owned in early days by the famous and ill-fated Jacob Leisler, whose career is one of the most important episodes in the history of this city. Condemned by the machinations of his enemies, he, with his son-in-law, Millbourne, was executed, and their remains buried on this very site, but were afterward removed and re-buried with great celebration in the old Dutch church yard on "Garden street," now Exchange place. The lot above mentioned is lot No. 1 and 2 of the Leisler land and in the division among his heirs it fell to the share of his son Jacob Leisler. In the early part of this century lot No. 1 was owned by Isaac Jones, who on May 4, 1810, sold it with a small house thereon standing, to the "Society of Tammany or Columbian Order," the price was \$10,050. The lot next east (No. 2), was sold to the same organization by Jacob Tyler, June 19, 1810, for \$3,950, both

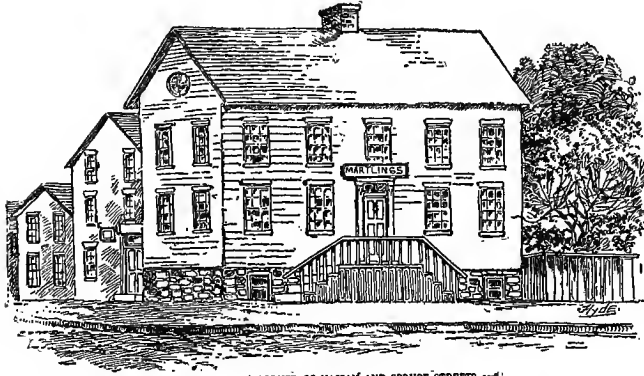
EARLY NEW YORK HOUSES

forming a lot of fifty-seven feet West on Chatham street, (now Park Row), and the same on Frankfort street.

Upon these lots was erected the building so famous in its day as "Tammany Hall." Of the political organization of which this was the rallying place, it is needless to speak, the organization is still in existence and bids fair to continue for a long time to come. The building of which a view is given, remained till 1867, and on April 30, of that year it was sold to the "Evening Telegraph Association" for \$150,000, and a new Tammany Hall was built on Fourteenth street. The house seen in the view next south of Tammany Hall, was the residence of John McNeil, a well-known citizen of that time. The queer shaped building on the north side of Frankfort street, at the extreme back ground was the German Lutheran Church, on the northeast corner of Frankfort and William streets. It was popularly known as the "Swamp Church." Directly opposite the hall on the east side of Frankfort street, was a wide lot with a few small buildings, this was owned by Casper Samler in 1794, who left it to a daughter who married John N. Grenzebach. Her heirs sold it to John Simpson, the "King of Pawn Brokers," In 1847, he built a hotel for Col. Richard French, who afterwards owned it, and as "French's Hotel" it was very famous for many years. It was sold by Thomas French, and wife Helen A. French, to Joseph Pulitzer, April 9, 1888, and on the site now stands the imposing building of the "New York World," one of the greatest newspapers in the United States. The original gathering place of the Tammany Society was at a tavern on the corner of Nassau and Spruce streets, and called "Martling's" from its owner.

EARLY NEW YORK HOUSES

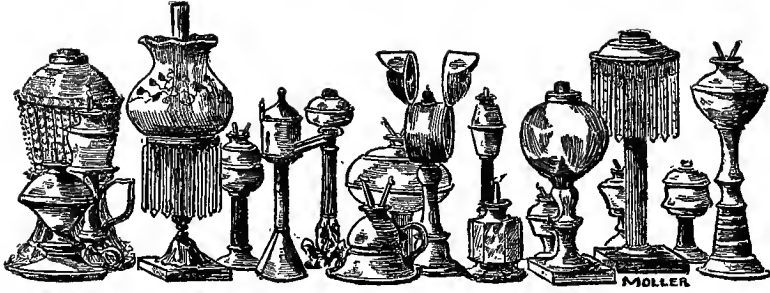
The Tribune office now stands on its site which is the north-west corner of the old Beekman Farm.



THE FIRST WIGWAM, CORNER OF NASSAU AND SPRUCE STREETS, 1795.

No. 12. HOUSE NO. 23 BOND STREET.





HOUSES ON BOND STREET



HERE were two houses on Bond street, one is still standing which are of interest, one as a token of sentimentality that outlasts the grave; and the other as the scene of one of the most terrible tragedies that ever shocked humanity. The house No. 31 Bond street, was in 1857 the home of Dr. Harvey Burdell, a dentist, who was born in 1811, near Herkimer, N. Y. He was a man of strange disposition, quarrelsome and penurious and had acquired a fortune by his professional skill. His family consisted of Mrs. Emma Augusta Cunningham, who acted as housekeeper, and an Irish servant. There were also a few lodgers, one of them John I. Eckel, another was Daniel Ullman, who was candidate for Governor on the "Know Nothing" ticket. On the morning of January 30th, the doctor was found murdered in his room, there were signs of a terrific struggle, and fifteen stab wounds were found on the body, his gold watch and pocket book were found on the body and this was considered evidence that robbery was not the motive. Mrs. Cunningham and

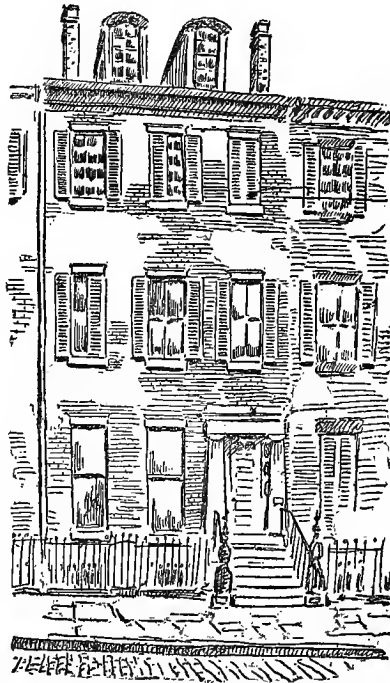
Eckel were arrested and the former brought to trial, but was acquitted by the jury, Eckel was next tried and also acquitted. Mrs. Cunningham then appeared as a claimant to the estate, pretending to be the widow of the murdered man. Her attempt to palm off a bogus heir to the property was exposed, she confessed and the prosecution was dropped. She afterwards went to California, but returned to New York, and died in Harlem, September 13, 1887, under the name of Emma Augusta Williams. She was buried in Greenwood.

Eckel was in later years convicted of crime and died in the Albany Penitentiary. Shortly before his death he was asked if he knew anything of the murder, he said that all he knew was that when going up the stairs that night he met Mrs. Cunningham coming down. No murder in New York ever created more excitement, or is more thoroughly wrapped in mystery.

The house No. 23 Bond street, has a far different history. Fifty years ago it was the residence of Henry Ward, a member of a well-known family. He died many years ago and it descended to his son Henry Hall Ward. Between this young man and his cousin Miss Eliza Ann Partridge, there existed the strongest love and affection, but for some reason they never married, some say on account of their close relationship. Henry Hall Ward died in Saratoga in 1872, leaving his property to executors in trust for Miss Partridge, there were many surmises as to what she would do with the house which was valuable, and the property could be made to yield a large income, but Miss Partridge acted with promptness. There were two old servants in the house, and to them she gave strict

EARLY NEW YORK HOUSES

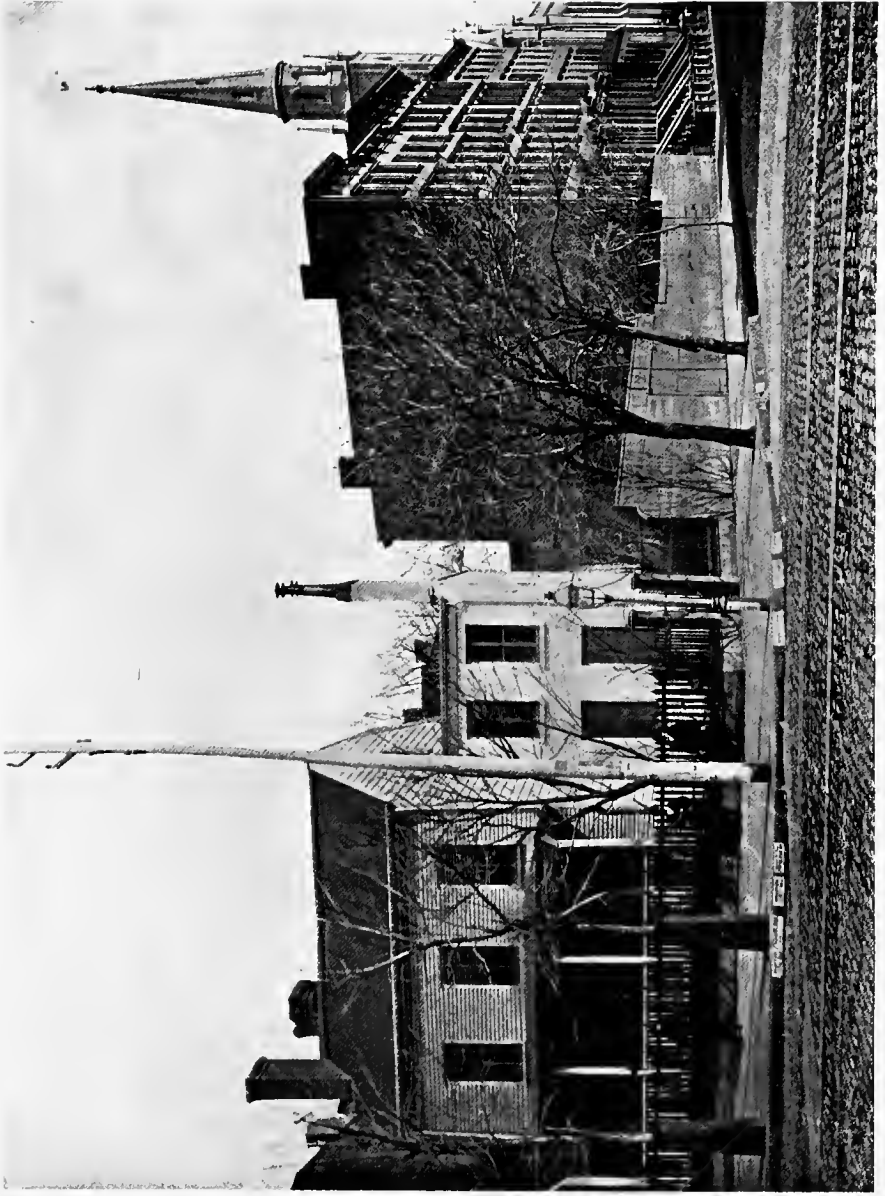
orders that nothing above the basement should be disturbed in the slightest manner, but that everything should remain just as her lover left it. Since then, years have passed, but the house in Bond street remains as it was. The windows are never opened and no mortal enters the long closed doors, everything has a deserted and decaying look, and even the large door plate has grown so tarnished that it is with difficulty that one can read the name of its old time owner, Henry Ward. Doubtless while she lives it will remain the same and only at her death will the gloomy portals be opened.



DR. BURDELL'S RESIDENCE
AT 31 BOND ST. NOW DEMOLISHED.

No. 13. THE HOMESTEAD OF CASPER SAMLER.

12/10





THE HOMESTEAD OF CASPER SAMLER



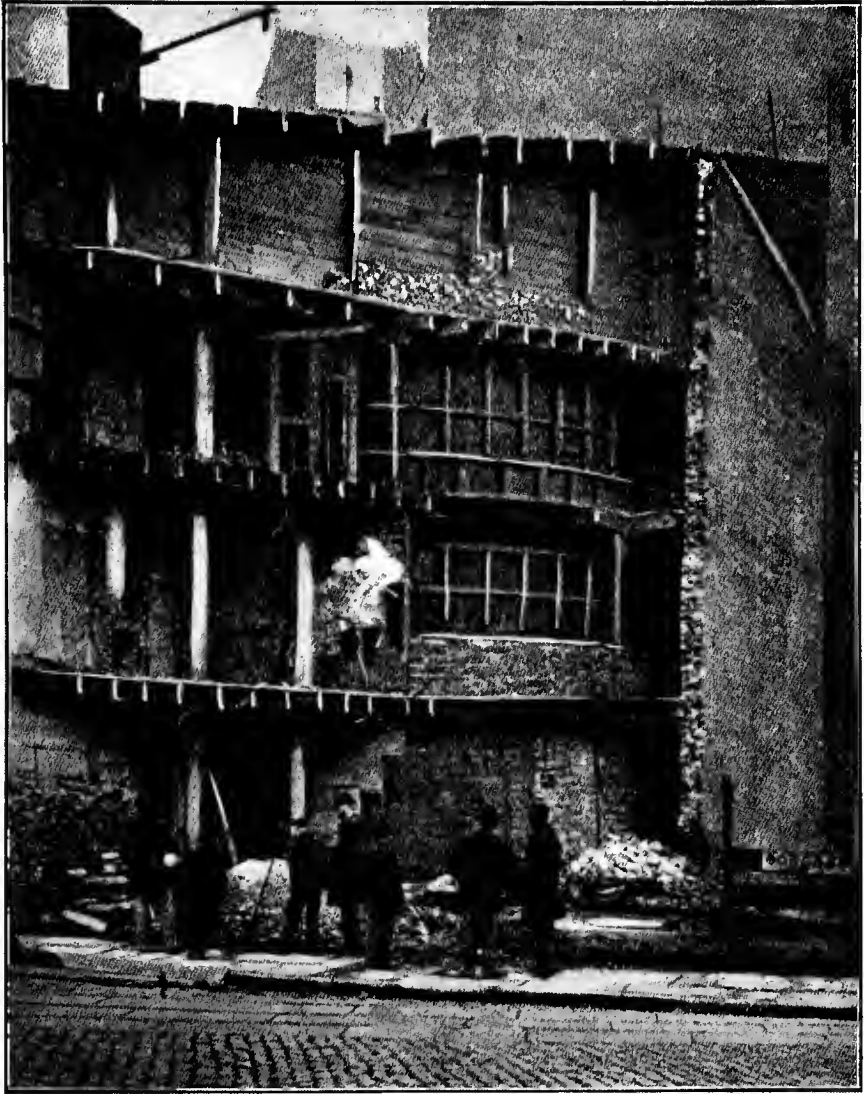
IN the latter part of the last century there was living in New York a farmer of Dutch ancestry named Casper Samler, who, by a fortunate purchase of land, laid the foundation of wealth for his descendants. On March 27, 1780, he purchased from Dr. Samuel Nicoll and others, "a farm or plantation, and messuage or dwelling house, lying and being at the third mile stone, bounded west by the Bloomingdale road, south and east partly by the road to Kingsbridge and partly by the Commons of the city." This embraced thirty-seven acres, and for it he paid the magnificent sum of £2,250, or \$5,625. The land included in this tract extends along Broadway from near the south line of Madison Square to Forty-fifth street. The south part of this farm, at the junction of the two roads, was in after years the Potter's Field. Casper Samler died in 1810, leaving wife Susannah and children—Susannah, wife of Wm. Coulthard, Elizabeth, wife of Matthew Galilee, and Barbarie. He also had a son John, who died before his father, leaving children.

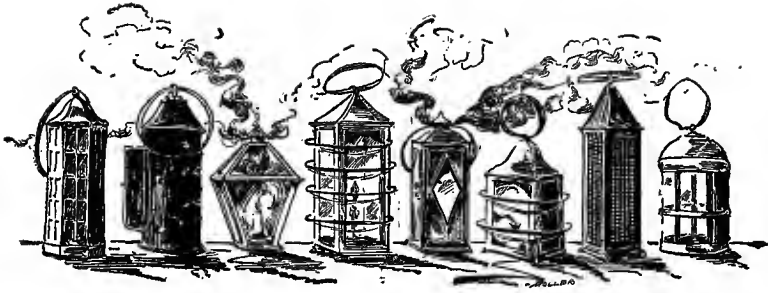
EARLY NEW YORK HOUSES

To these, and a step-daughter, Margaret, wife of John W. Greentzbach, he left the farm and other property. The farm was divided into lots, and lot 2, which included the homestead, fell to the share of Elizabeth Galilee. After the decease of Mr. Galilee, she married James W. Anderson in 1815. Matthew Galilee left a daughter Ann, who married George Greer, a member of a noted firm of sugar refiners, who built the house No. 7 West Twenty-ninth street, which is seen in the engraving. This house was occupied for several years by the Bar Association, and was torn down in 1898. Mr. Greer's daughter Julia, is the wife of J. Edward Simmons, Esq., President of the Fourth National Bank. By her second marriage Mrs. Galilee had a son, James Anderson. The old house stood till 1870, when the land surrounding it was leased to Peter Gilsey, who built the noted hotel known as the Gilsey House, which stands upon the site of the old mansion, on the northeast corner of Broadway and Twenty-ninth street.

Among other property of Casper Samler was the lot on which the "World Building" now stands. This lot he bought of Cornelius Ring and others, September 22, 1794, and is described as bounded north by Chatham street, west by Frankfort street, and east by Blaize Morse. The lot was 32 feet front and 56 feet deep, and is mentioned as "nearly opposite the new goal," now the Register's Office of New York. For this lot he paid £720, or \$1,800, and there was a building on it at the time.

NO. 14. THE "TANK" OF THE MANHATTAN WATER COMPANY.





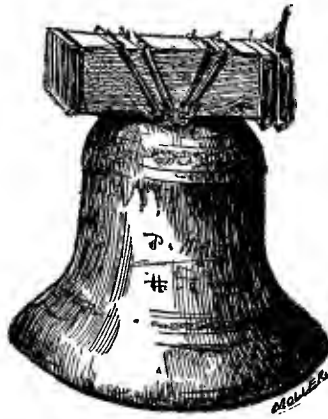
THE TANKS OF THE MANHATTAN WATER COMPANY



IN the days of old when Aaron Burr was a power in New York, both politically and legally, when all the water for city use was derived from wells and when people were willing to pay to have water brought to them from the "Tea Water Pump," in those days a company was started to supply the city with pure and wholesome water. A charter was obtained from the Legislature April 2, 1799. The far-sighted, long headed Burr, had another scheme which was hidden behind this innocent project for supplying "pure and wholesome water." He and his followers were very anxious to have a bank, but it was useless to petition the Legislature for that. The crafty Burr, tacked on to his charter a proviso that any surplus money of the company might be invested in any way not contrary to law. The company dug wells, laid long lines of wooden pipes under the streets and erected an immense tank for holding the water. The recent destruction of buildings for the new Register's office, brought

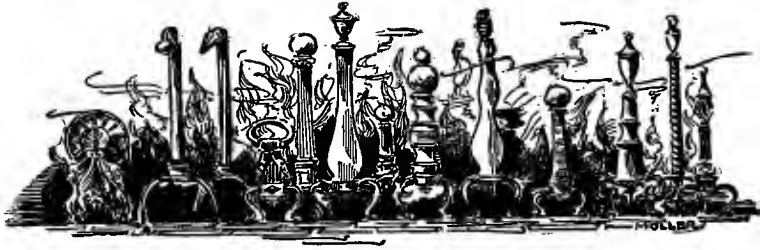
EARLY NEW YORK HOUSES

the old tank to the light of day. It was built of iron, strongly hooped and surrounded with a brick wall. It answered a very useful purpose in its day, and lasted till the time when Croton water came to the city in a flood. In accordance with Burr's hidden scheme, the surplus money was used to establish the Manhattan Bank, which has ever since been a flourishing institution and in this institution survives the old water company though its original object and purpose has ceased to exist.



No. 15. RESIDENCE OF GENERAL WINFIELD SCOTT.





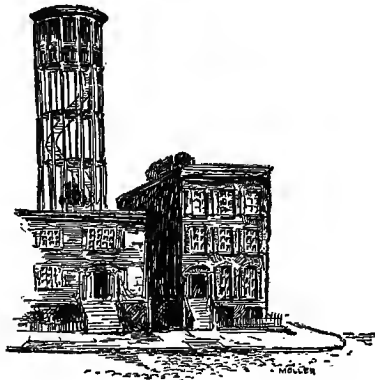
RESIDENCE OF GENERAL WINFIELD SCOTT



THE renowned conqueror of Mexico, was for the latter part of his eventful life a resident of New York. On April 10, 1853, Charles Partridge and his wife Sophronia, sold to Winfield Scott, "A General in the Army of the United States," the house and lot No. 24 West 12th street, two hundred and seventy-six feet west of Fifth avenue. The price was \$26,000. The house adjoining, No. 22, of which a view is given, was built by Wm. S. Pickett, a well-known citizen, about the same time. The house of General Scott, covered with vines presented a very elegant appearance, and here the famous warrior entertained the most famous men of the nation. His quiet residence here was interrupted by the outbreak of the civil war, during which his time was mostly spent in Washington. At the time of his death he was residing at Cranston's, West Point, and his honored remains rest in the national cemetery and a massive monument of the ancient Roman style marks the spot. After his decease an auction was made at his city residence and many interesting relics

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found a sale. The place soon after passed into other hands, but so long as it remains it will be a most interesting landmark as the residence of a man who enlarged his country's boundaries, and has left an immortal fame.



EARLY NEW YORK HOUSES
WITH HISTORICAL & GEN-
EALOGICAL NOTES BY ~
WILLIAM S. PELLETREAV, A.M.
PHOTOGRAPHS OF OLD HOUSES
& ORIGINAL ILLVSTRATIONS BY
C.G.MOLLER, JR. √√√√√√√√√√



IN TEN PARTS
PART IV

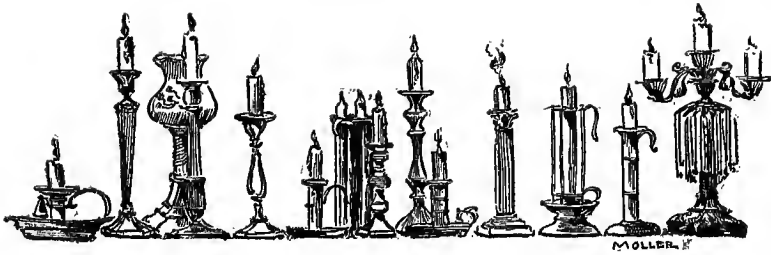
FRANCIS P. HARPER, PVBLISHER
NEW YORK, A.D. 1900 √√√√√√√√√√



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No. 16. LAST DWELLING ON BROADWAY. GOELET MANSION.





THE LAST DWELLING HOUSE ON BROADWAY THE GOELET MANSION

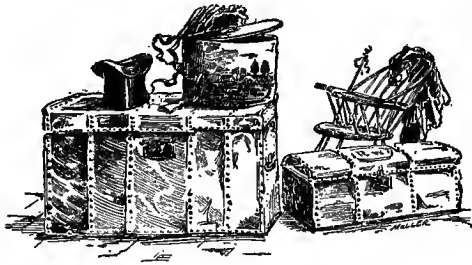


IN the middle of the last century there lived in the "Out Ward," which then meant almost everything north of Chambers street, a Dutch farmer named Cornelius Tiebout. His farm was bounded on the west by the Bowery lane, which ran diagonally across what is now Union Square. It extended north nearly to Twentieth street, and east almost to Irving place. From there it ran in a straight line to a point on Sixteenth street near Third avenue, and thence to what is now Fourth avenue and Fourteenth street. On this tract he had a small farmhouse—which stood where the Clarendon Hotel now stands—and here he lived till the time of his death. When a man made his will in those days he was especially anxious to preclude any possibility of his property being enjoyed by his widow's second husband, should she have any. But Cornelius Tiebout was of a different nature, and left to his wife his farm "for life, and if at any time hereafter she should have issue, then to her and her heirs and assigns

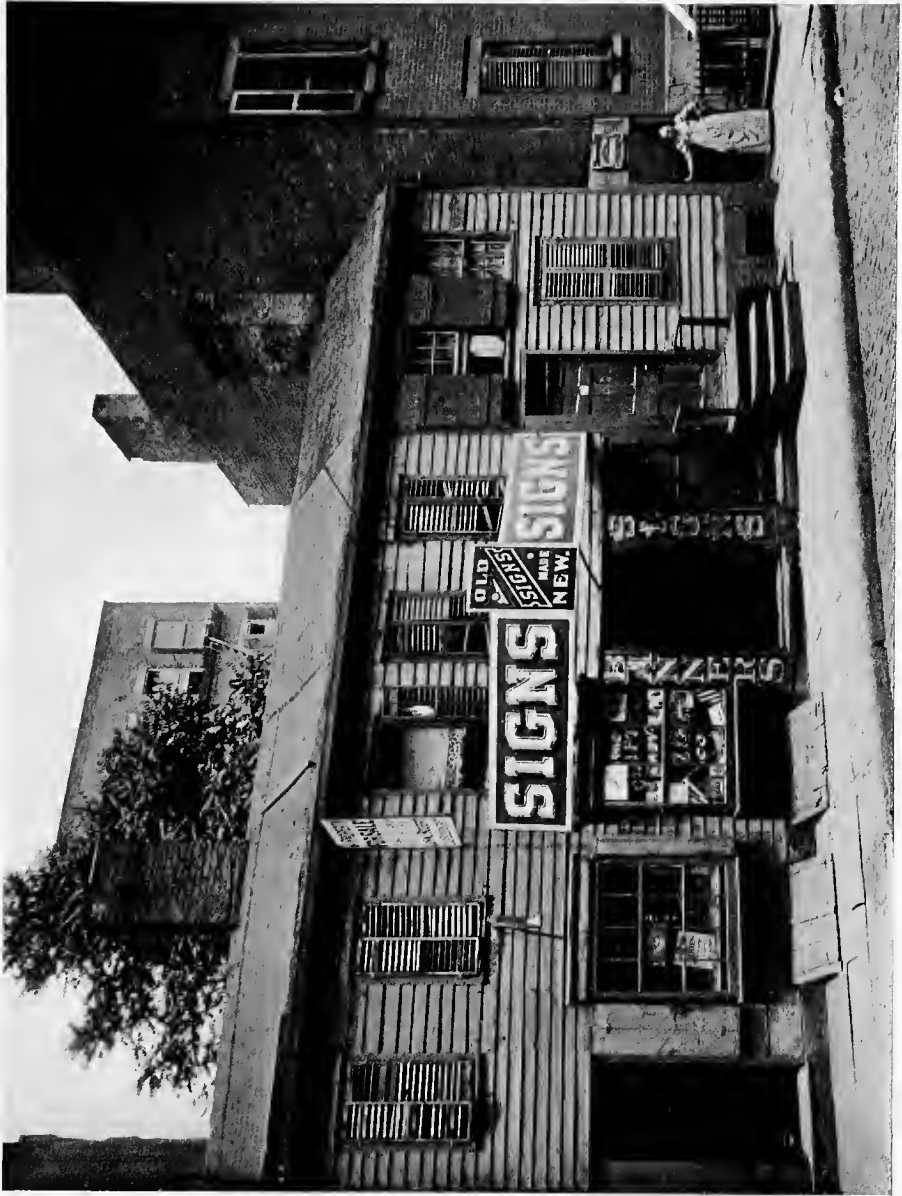
forever." If she left no issue, then the farm was to go to John Kortright. Under these circumstances John Kortright might be said to be a young man of "Great Expectations," but these were suddenly blasted when an Englishman, named Edward Williams, made his appearance, and wooed the handsome widow. They were married, and in due time a son was born, and in gratitude to the man who had made her rich she called the boy Cornelius Tiebout Williams. Now, while this boy was growing to manhood, the city was growing also. Streets and avenues were laid out. When Union Square was opened the greatest part of it was taken from his land, and the commissioners assessed the benefit as being \$4,059 more than the damage, so he not only lost the land, but had to pay that amount in addition. About 1830 Cornelius T. Williams built on the northeast corner of Nineteenth street and Broadway, the mansion which was destined to be the last dwelling house on that thoroughfare. He did not enjoy it long, but died a comparatively young man in 1835. In the division of the property, the family mansion and several lots adjoining fell to the share of one of the daughters, Julia C., wife of Dr. Wm. Miner, and they sold it to Peter Goelet January 1, 1844. The whole made a front of 96 feet on Broadway, and 168 feet on Nineteenth street. It brought what would now be considered the insignificant sum of \$22,500. For the many years during which Mr. Goelet made it his home, the house, with its ample grounds, was a veritable *rus in urbe*; the sight of poultry and domestic animals gave it the appearance of a country home in a crowded city. Mr. Goelet had a sister Hannah, who married Thomas R. Gerry, and was the mother of Commodore Elbridge

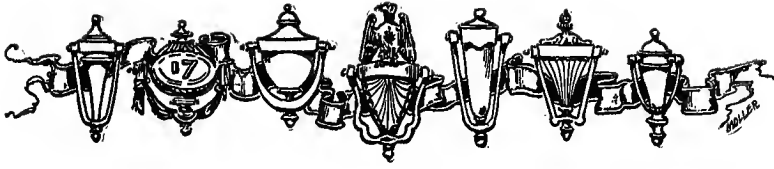
EARLY NEW YORK HOUSES

T. Gerry, famous as a philanthropist. The house and ground were left to her, and nothing could induce her to leave the ancient home. Upon her decease in 1896, the march of improvement was left free to pursue its course, and the mansion was torn down to make room for a much greater building devoted to trade.

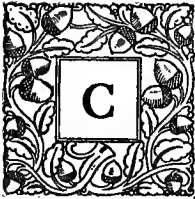


No. 17. OLD HOUSES ON CORNELIA STREET.





OLD HOUSES ON CORNELIA STREET



CORNELIA STREET, which was laid out in 1794, was on the line between the lots on the "Herring Farm," which fell to Sarah, wife of Dr. Gardiner Jones, and Cornelia, wife of Samuel Jones.

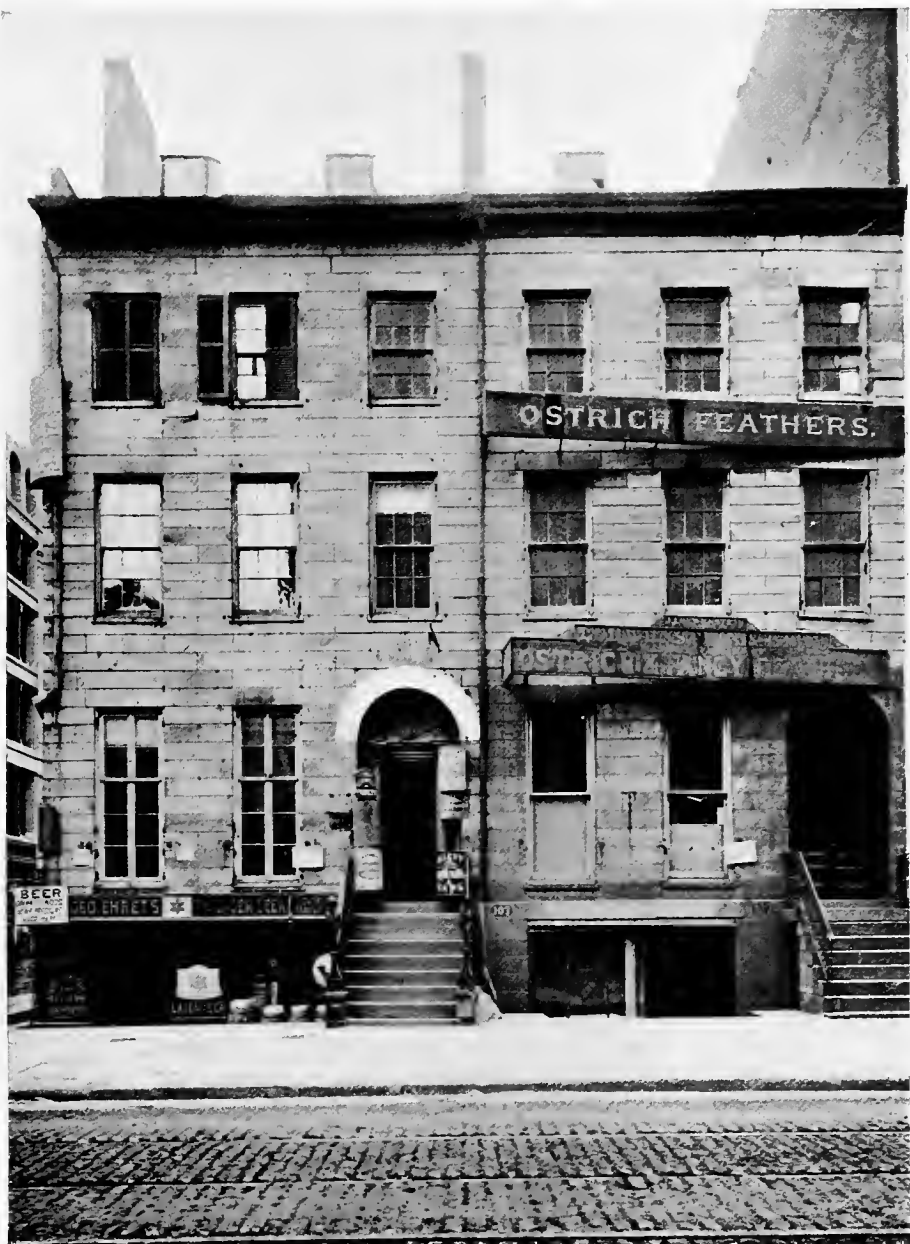
On October 5, 1819, Dr. Gardiner Jones sold to Charles Oakley, "merchant," twenty lots for \$8,000. These lots were bounded west by Herring street (now Bleecker), north by Jones street, and south by Cornelia street, the tract being 250 feet wide. On this he made some improvements, but the whole was sold on foreclosure to the East River Mutual Insurance Company in 1842. They sold it to David Bebell, a builder, April 25, 1843. He built several houses of a very cheap grade, of which three still remain, and a view of two of them is here given. These were formerly Nos. 27 and 29 Cornelia street, on the north side, and about 124 feet east of Bleecker. They are at present Nos. 29, 29½. The price stated was \$3,300. though it hardly seems that this could have been worth so much. The monstrous chimnies, which seem out of all

EARLY NEW YORK HOUSES

proportion to the houses, are reminders of the time when wood was used almost exclusively for fuel, and the huge fire places in which it was consumed still remain. These houses are probably a fair sample of the cheapest kind of dwellings in Old New York. Concerning Jones street, a curious story is told. Dr. Gardiner Johnes was a native of Southampton, Long Island. After his marriage to Sarah Herring he changed his name to Jones. Between this family and that of Samuel Jones, who married Cornelia Herring, there was no relationship, but much jealousy. When Gardiner Jones laid out Jones street in 1794, and called it after his name, the other family took umbrage and forthwith laid out another street, on their part of the farm and extending from Broadway to Bowery, and also called it "Jones street." These streets of the same name made some confusion, and not to be out-done, the latter was given the name of "Great Jones street," which it still retains. This part of the city was never fashionable nor inhabited by families of wealth and respectability. As lots were sold cheap they were bought by a cheap class of people and small and squalid houses were erected of which the ones depicted are a fair example.



NO. 18. THE LAST OF LE ROY PLACE.





THE LAST OF LE ROY PLACE



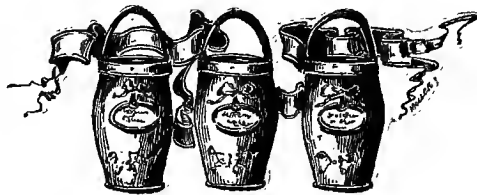
IN the year 1827, Isaac G. Pearson, a wealthy merchant and builder, purchased all the lots on both sides of Bleeker street, between Mercer and Greene streets, the lots at that time being worth from \$400, to \$600, each. Upon both sides of the street he erected rows of dwelling houses, which were considered extremely elegant and he named it Le Roy place, in honor of Jacob Le Roy, a very prominent citizen. The houses were intended as residences for a wealthy and fashionable class of people, and it was stipulated that each house was to have in front of it a yard ten feet wide. These intentions were fully realized, and for many years Bleeker street was one of the most fashionable parts of the city. Of these houses only two now remain, the encroachments of trade and business having swept the rest away. The house No. 15 Le Roy place, of which a view is given, was bounded south by Bleeker street and west by Greene street. It was sold by the builder to Joseph C. Yates, in 1829 for \$12,500, Ann E. Yates his wife was the daughter of John De Lancey. They had two

EARLY NEW YORK HOUSES

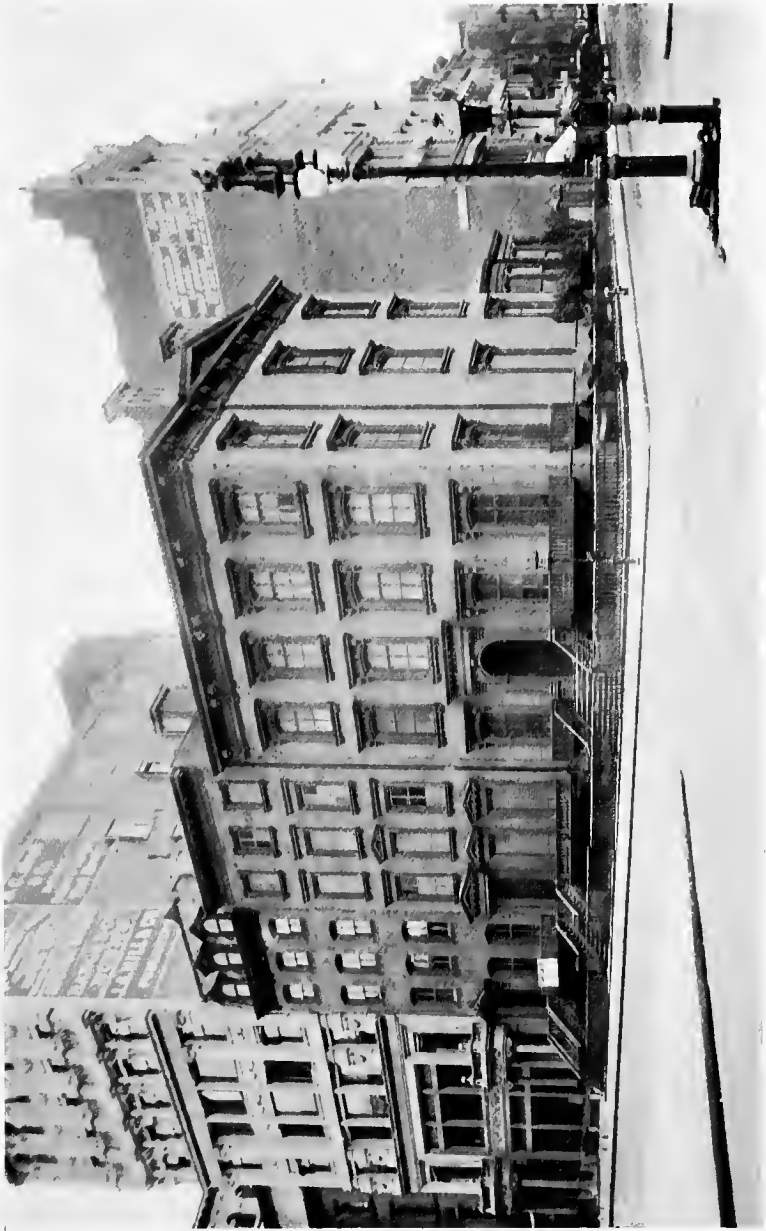
daughters Ann Allida, and Jane Josepha, the latter married Samuel McNeil, and Joseph C. Yates and wife conveyed to her the house and lot at the above valuation, as a part of a legacy of \$20,000 left to her by her grand-father John De Lancey.

The house No. 13, of which a view is also given, was sold to Benjamin Stephens for \$11,250. He was the father of John L. Stephens, the famous traveler and antiquarian. These houses are now Nos. 103-105 Bleecker street. The signs on these houses are sufficient to show that they are no longer fashionable residences and in all probability they will soon make room for buildings of a very different class, as has been the fate of all the rest of the mansions on Le Roy Place.

It is a curious fact that this part of the city retained its elegance and was desirable as a place of residence for some years after it became a test of gentility to "live above Bleecker," and as late as 1835, Prince street was almost the border of civilization. Walker street was the dwelling place of many wealthy and aristocratic families and it is sad to see mansions once famed for elegant hospitality, now inhabited by foreigners of the lowest grade.



NO. 19. NORTHEAST CORNER OF FIFTH AVENUE AND 16TH STREET.





NORTHEAST CORNER OF FIFTH AVENUE AND SIXTEENTH STREET



THE land on Fifth avenue, between Sixteenth and Seventeenth streets, is a part of the large tract owned by Thomas Burling, in the latter part of the last century. A large part of it was in after years owned by John Cowman. Fifth avenue was opened through this tract in 1836. The land of John Cowman was divided into lots, the front between Sixteenth and Seventeenth streets being lots 1 to 7, inclusive. Lots 1, 2 and 3 were sold by the executors of the estate of John Cowman, to Gardiner G. Howland, in 1836, the corner lot 26 feet 4 inches in width, brought the sum of \$8,600, the other two lots were sold for \$8,100 each, and were of the same width. On November 14, 1849, Gardiner G. Howland sold to Wm. A. Spencer, "lately in the naval service of the United States," a lot fronting forty-nine feet, front on Fifth avenue, and one hundred and forty-one feet on Sixteenth street, the price being \$21,500. Captain Spencer was the son of Ambrose Spencer, one of the most prominent lawyers of his day and member of a family famous in the annals of New York. He

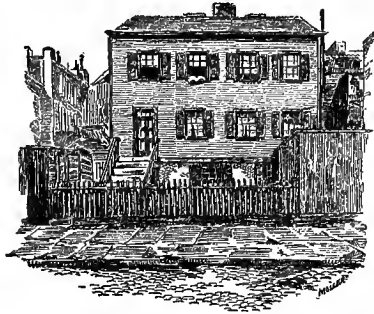
married Elenora, daughter of Peter Lorillard, and after her decease he was married to her sister Catharine. Upon the lot thus purchased, Captain Spencer erected a mansion which for size and elegance surpassed anything on Fifth avenue at that time. An extensive conservatory in the rear, was in itself a thing of beauty, while the entire mansion was finished and furnished in a style commensurate with the wealth and social position of its occupants, and in the days when the avenue was a street of palaces where trade had never set its foot, the "Spencer mansion" was foremost among its equals. After the death of Captain Spencer, it descended to his son Lorillard Spencer, who married Miss Sarah Johnson Griswold, and the place was one of the centers of social life. Mr. Spencer died in 1888, his son Lorillard Spencer, is well known to the literary and social world.

The lot next to the Spencer mansion was sold by the executors of Gardiner G. Howland, to Edwin Penfold and Thomas H. Faile, September 18, 1852, for \$10,000. This lot was twenty-nine feet ten inches wide and upon it they erected the house No. 87 Fifth avenue. They were both bachelors and both wealthy, and here they made their homes during the remainder of their lives, living in a style of most elegant leisure, and evidently studying their own enjoyment more than anything else. After their death the mansion was sold in a partition suit to Dr. Robert G. Remsen, for \$89,000, and is still owned by his heirs, though deserted by them, and the words "For Sale" tell the story of its speedy destruction.

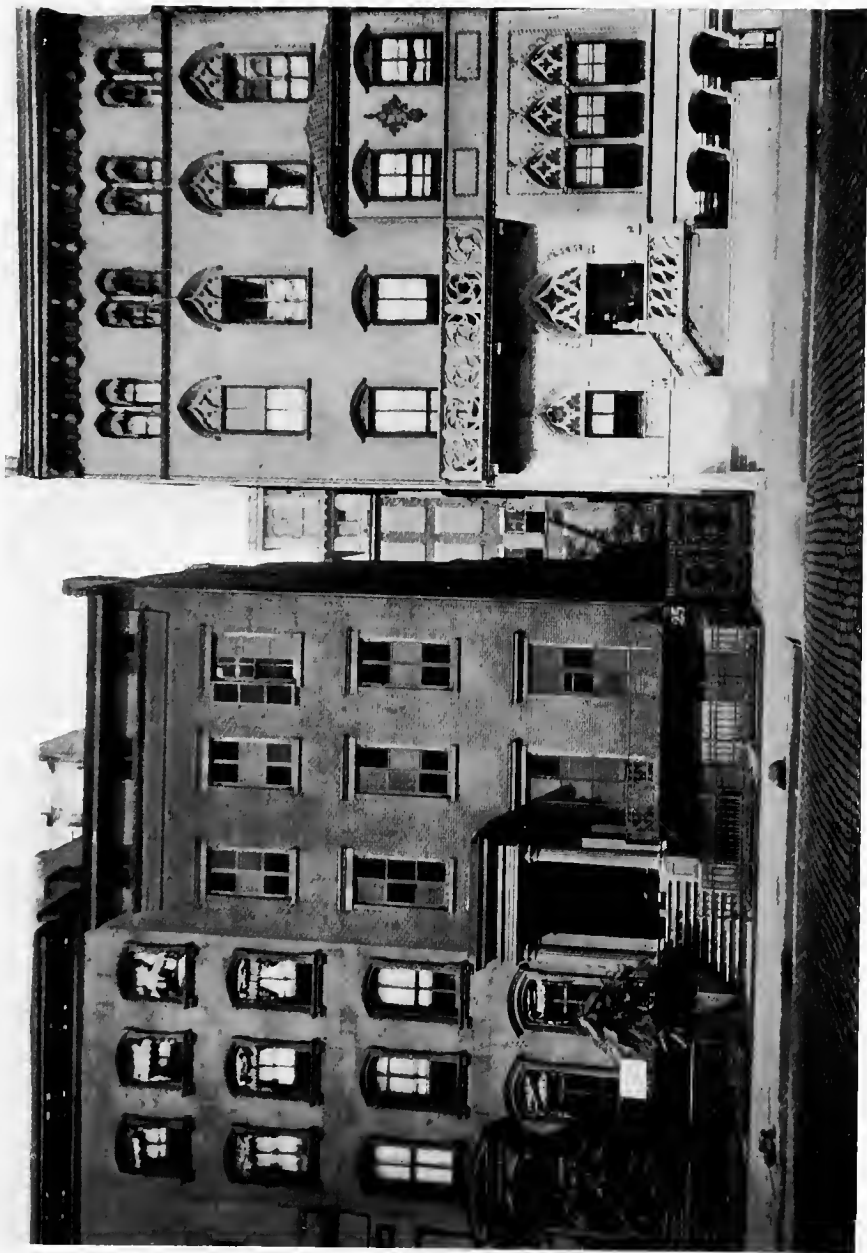
Lot No. 4, (now 89 Fifth avenue), was sold by the estate of John Cowman, to Augustus T. Cowman, April 21, 1836, for

EARLY NEW YORK HOUSES

\$8,700. In 1849, it was sold to Henry Heyward, who sold it to Edwin Snyder, "merchant," February 8, 1850, and he built the house now standing and sold it to James McCall, in 1854, for \$29,000. He sold to Anna D. Cheever, wife of John H. Cheever, in 1859, for \$30,000, and it has been in that family till recent years.



No. 20. No. 25 LAFAYETTE PLACE.





NO. 25 LAFAYETTE PLACE



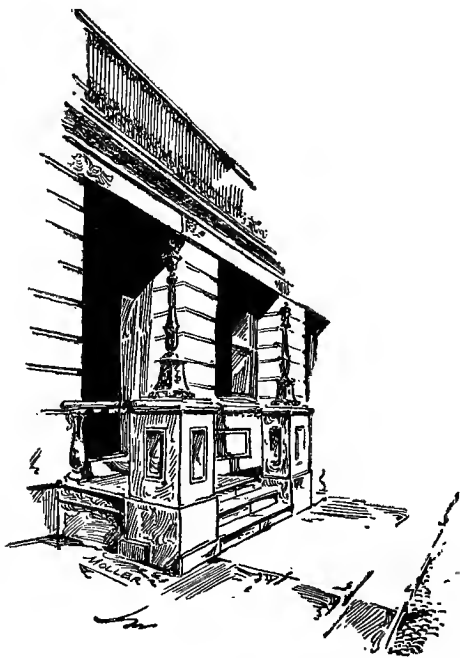
THE march of improvement, or destruction, as one may look upon it, has left very little of Lafayette place as it was in the days of its social elegance, and the house No. 25, which still remains, is worthy of more than a passing notice. The land upon which it stands is a part of the "Herring Farm," so well known to the searchers of titles to real estate. A portion of this, fronting on Broadway and including Lafayette place, which was opened in 1826, was purchased by Anthony L. Bleecker, and divided into lots, several of which were sold to William Van Hook. It soon became evident that the new street, named after the illustrious Frenchman whose name must ever be dear to the hearts of all true Americans, would soon become one of the most elegant portions of the city. On May 17, 1839, William Van Hook sold to David Thompson and Benjamin L. Swan two lots each forty-five feet front and one hundred and thirty-seven in depth, the price of each lot being \$16,000. Upon these lots they erected elegant mansions, an alley of ten feet wide being left between them

for mutual convenience. The house built by Mr. Swan was torn down several years since and the See House of the Episcopal church stands in its place. It was one of the characteristics of Mr. Swan to be more studiously polite than the person he was with, and he would sometimes be seen hat in hand talking to a beggar, for he would never be outdone in civility.

David Thompson, who built No. 25, was the son of Jonathan Thompson, at one time Collector of the Port of New York. His wife was the daughter of John Lyon Gardiner, the seventh Lord of the Manor of Gardiner's Island. Of Jonathan Thompson, it may be said that during his whole life he was a power, not only in the financial, but in the political and social world, being the intimate acquaintance of five presidents of the United States, and holding the highest position among the old and historic families of the state. David Thompson was president of the Bank of Commerce, and held a high official position in the New York Life Insurance and Trust Company, and other financial institutions. He married Sarah Diodati Gardiner, daughter of John Lyon Gardiner, the seventh Lord of the Manor. She was a beautiful lady of the old school and the mansion in Lafayette place was the center of social life. The house being furnished in the style of substantial luxury so peculiar to those times. The country seat of the family was the Manor of Sagtikos, an estate of eight miles in length, at Islip, Long Island, and is now the property of his son Hon. Frederick Diodati Thompson, well known to the social and literary world, an extensive traveler, and the recipient of high honors from the Sultan of Turkey, as a recognition of very valuable services rendered.

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The house No. 23, also shown in the engraving, was built by David Thompson and Gabriel Mead, and sold to William Chauncey, an old time merchant, and for some years treasurer of the New York Historical Society. He left a daughter who married Gen. Chauncey McKeever, of the U. S. Army.



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WITH HISTORICAL & GEN-
EALOGICAL NOTES BY ~
WILLIAM S. PELLETREAV, A.M.
PHOTOGRAPHS OF OLD HOUSES
& ORIGINAL ILLVSTRATIONS BY
C.G.MOLLER, JR. √√√√√√√√√√



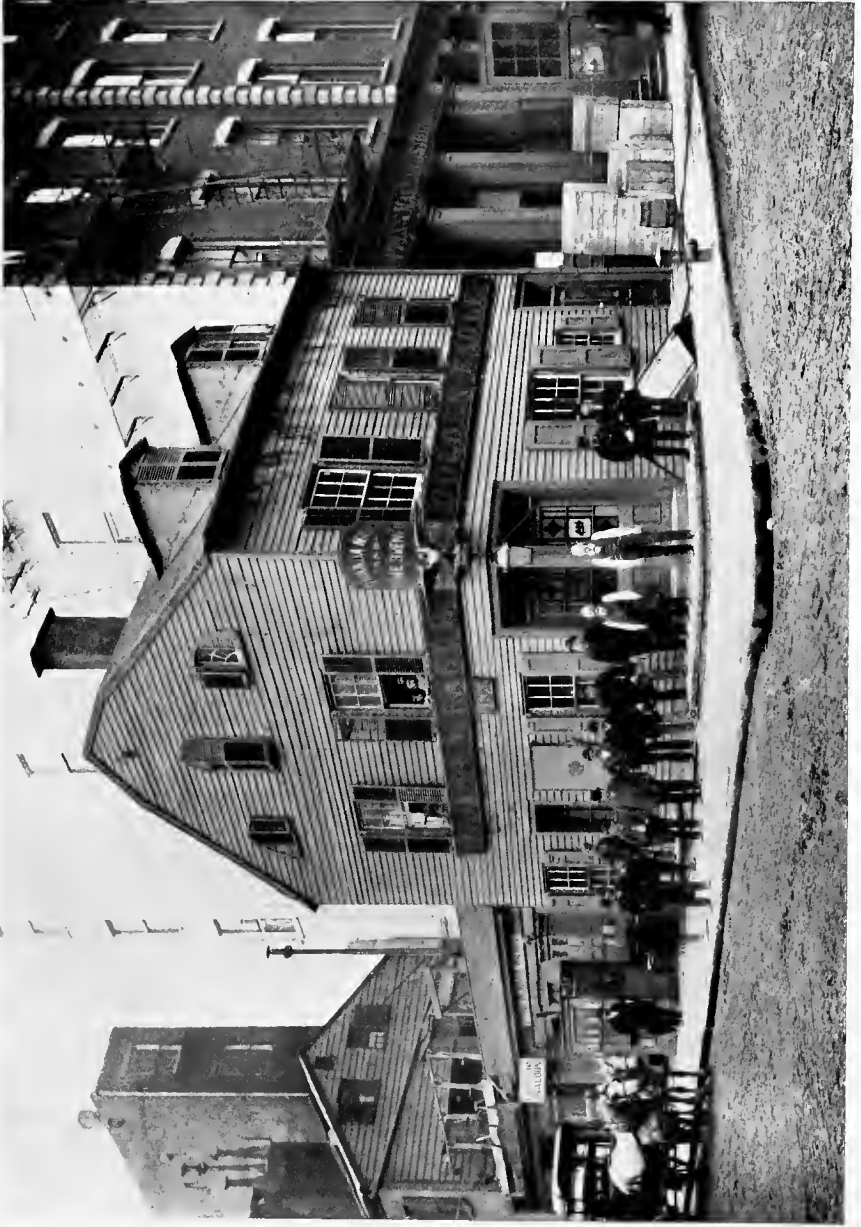
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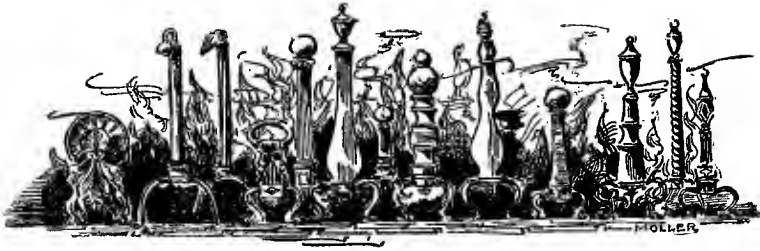
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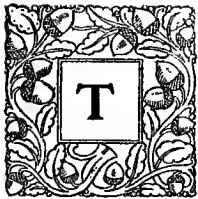
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NO. 21. THE GOLDEN EAGLE INN.





THE GOLDEN EAGLE INN



THIS Inn, famous in earlier days, stood on what was originally lot 9, of the Herring Farm. The lot was purchased by Cornelius C. Rosevelt, who sold it to several persons. It was sub-divided into smaller lots, and of these lot 17 fell to the share of Magdalena Beekman, she gave it "for love and affection" to Gerard Wm. Livingston, a near relative. In 1826, Amity street, (now West 3rd street), was opened and this was a corner lot bounded west by Mercer street, and north by Amity (West 3rd street). In 1834, Richard J. Wells, "Counselor at Law," bought the lot and built the Inn, of which a view is given. He sold the whole to John H. Coutant, "gentleman," in 1840, for \$13,000. He was at one time the proprietor of the "Vauxhall Garden," a place of entertainment near where the Astor library now stands. He left the Inn to his son Charles Coutant, who sold it for business purposes and the famous hostelry was torn down in May, 1893. It was the last frame building in what is called the "wholesale district." It was first used as a dwelling house and afterwards

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as a school. It was then leased by John I. Warden, a well-known character, who turned it into a saloon and gave it the name of the "Golden Eagle." In the days of its glory it was a favorite resort of Gen. Winfield Scott, Edwin Booth, John Wallack, and a host of men whose names are famous. The place at one time contained quite a collection of paintings and curios, and a conspicuous feature was an immense copper bowl filled with tobacco, which was free to all customers. Over the bar was a conspicuous sign:

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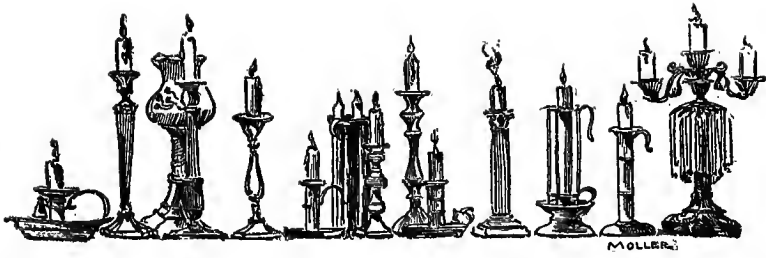
"Swearing, loud, boisterous talk, political, religious and exciting disputes will not be allowed."

This was quite appropriate in the days when the "Know Nothing" excitement was rampant. The land on which it stood had trebled and quadrupled in value, but the building itself was an incumbrance which the owners were glad to give away. Charles Coutant, the last of his name died in 1899, leaving most of his wealth to charitable institutions.



No. 22. BELMONT MANSION, FIFTH AVENUE.





BELMONT MANSION, FIFTH AVENUE



WITHIN the space of a very few years, Fifth avenue has changed from a street of palace residences to a street devoted to trade and occupied with massive buildings erected for business purposes.

Among the most spacious and elegant of the dwellings that have disappeared, was the superb residence of August Belmont, on the northeast corner of Eighteenth street. On March 15, 1851, Richard K. Haight sold to Stephen Pott the vacant lot having a front of seventy feet on Fifth avenue and one hundred and twenty-five feet on Eighteenth street. The price was \$22,800—a large price at that time. He also purchased a lot next east of this, with a front of twenty-five feet on Eighteenth street, the price being \$500. Upon these lots Mr. Pott erected a large and elegant mansion and sold it March 26, 1853, to Elizabeth Gihan, wife of John Gihan, a very prominent merchant, for the recorded price of \$119,500. For some years he was very prosperous, but owing to financial reverses, Mrs. Gihan sold the mansion to August

EARLY NEW YORK HOUSES

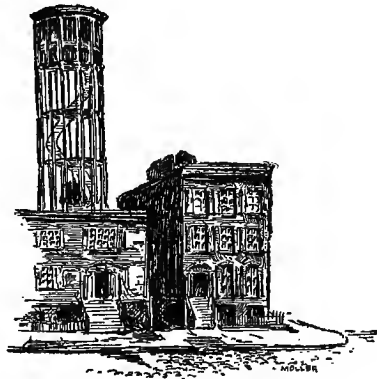
Belmont, December 28, 1857, for \$90,000. Mr. Belmont also purchased from Adelia L. Otis, the house and lot next adjoining, with a front of thirty feet on the avenue, at a cost of \$130,000. These houses, united, composed the Belmont mansion, so famous in later years.

August Belmont, the owner of this palatial mansion, was born in Alzey, in the Palatinate, Rhenish Prussia, December 6, 1816. His early training, eminently fitted him for a financial career, coming to this country as an agent for the Rothschilds, a family whose name is synonymous with wealth. He established a banking house in New York in 1837. From the very beginning his resolution seemed to be a resolve to become as quickly as possible a citizen of the United States and become an American in the true sense of the word. In 1849 he was united in marriage with the daughter of Commodore Matthew C. Perry, a name famous in our country's annals. Taking an active interest in politics, he became one of the leaders of the Democratic party, and was a very liberal contributor to its interests, and was made chairman of important committees. As United States Minister to Holland, he exercised great skill and judgment, and as a diplomatist he was excelled by few. The Belmont mansion was one of the centers of social life. To the original building he added a large conservatory and a picture gallery, filled with the choicest works of art, to which he was a liberal patron. Mr. Belmont died November 24, 1890, at the age of seventy-four. The banking house which he founded is still in full prosperity and his sons are well-known in the financial, social and political world.

EARLY NEW YORK HOUSES

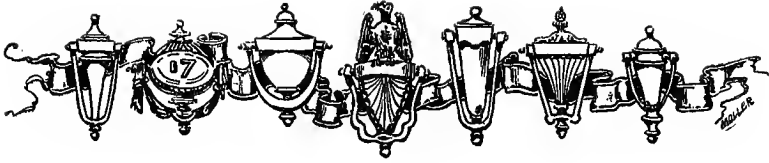
The elegant mansion of which a view is given, was torn down in 1889 and a much larger building devoted to business now occupies its place. With the exception, perhaps, of the house of Marshall O. Roberts, it was the most imposing and elegant mansion on the famous avenue.

Among the first of the large entertainments given in the Belmont mansion, was the reception to the Japanese Ambassadors. This took place immediately after the ports of Japan had been opened to American commerce, through the efforts of Commodore Perry, father of Mrs. Belmont. As a slight acknowledgment of his inestimable services, the United States Government presented Commodore Perry with a service of silver plate of great elegance and value. It was left in the Belmont house and used on great occasions.



No. 23. HOUSE PRESIDENT MONROE DIED IN.





THE HOUSE IN WHICH PRESIDENT JAMES MONROE DIED



AMONG the best known and most prominent citizens of New York, in the early part of this century was Samuel L. Gouverneur, a member of an ancient and honorable family, and one of the lineal descendants of the famous, but ill fated Jacob Leisler. He married Maria, the daughter of President James Monroe, and was by him appointed postmaster of New York. On December 16, 1823 he purchased from Philip Brasher the two lots bounded east by Orange street (now Marion) and south by Prince street. Each lot was twenty-four feet nine inches in width and the price was \$2,159 which was probably a fair value for lots in that vicinity. Upon these lots he built two houses, both of which still remain; and in the corner house he made his residence. This is now No. 63 Prince street.

President Monroe, famous and justly honored, both as a soldier in the Revolution, and as the chief executive of the nation, lived in the latter years of his life in honest poverty

and made his home with his son-in-law Mr. Gouverneur. For more than fifty years he had been one of the greatest men of the nation. Entering the Revolutionary army in 1776 he passed through all grades from lieutenant to colonel. He distinguished himself in several battles, and at Trenton he was severely wounded. As a member of the Legislature of Virginia, Member of the House of Representatives, Senator, Minister to France, Minister to England, Envoy to Spain, Secretary of State and as President; in all these high positions he was conspicuous. His resolutions to defend the newly established republics of South America, resulted in making the "Monroe Doctrine" an inseparable part of the national policy.

On July 1, 1831 the spirit of the patriot and statesman passed away. The announcement of his decease was appropriately noticed by the legislative, literary, commercial and judicial bodies, and the citizens of New York united to do honor to his memory. His remains were laid to rest in the Marble Cemetery, where they remained until July 4, 1858, when, with highest honors, they were removed to his native state, and now rest in Hollywood Cemetery, Richmond.

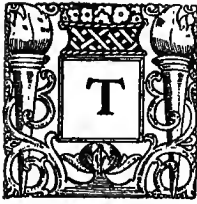
The west house built by Samuel L. Gouverneur, was sold by him to Alfred Seton, June 28, 1829 for \$8,000. The corner house in which the President died, was sold to Miles R. Burke, April 16, 1832 for \$10,750. Both have long since fallen from the station of desirable city residences, and as the signs upon them indicate are now devoted to inferior works of trade. The view represents them as they appeared July 1, 1891.

NO. 24. NEW YORK HOTEL.





NEW YORK HOTEL



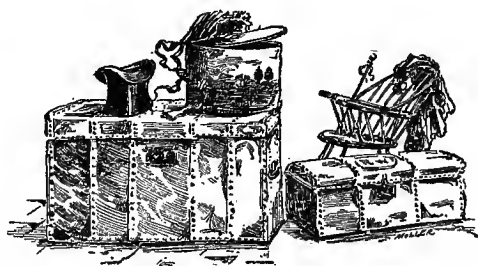
THE lots on Broadway, between Waverley place and Washington place, are a part of the Herring Farm. Broadway, or what was formerly known as "Great George street," was extended to this neighborhood in 1794. A few years later lands had begun to have a speculative value, but were considered quite remote from the city. The lots near where the University of the City of New York afterwards stood, were purchased by the Presbyterian churches for cemeteries, it being thought that they would never be disturbed in so distant a locality. In 1832, the entire front on Broadway, between the streets above mentioned, was owned by Luke Kip and in 1843 it was sold by his heirs to Matthew Morgan and Hickson W. Field, and in the same year they erected the building, which at that time, was the farthest north of any hotel in the city. For many years it was one of the most popular hotels in the city and was especially a favorite resort for Southerners visiting New York. At the outbreak of the rebellion this fact made some trouble for

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the proprietors, whose love of gain rather outweighed their patriotism and prevented them from exhibiting the outward signs of patriotic feeling, which at that time seemed called for. The loss of Southern patronage was a great blow to its prosperity, from which it never fully recovered, and it was overshadowed by other and larger hotels, which the prosperity following the war, caused to spring up in every quarter.

In 1893 it passed into the hands of a receiver, and the entire building was sold to Randolph Guggenheimer. It was soon after demolished and the present magnificent office buildings were erected in their stead. The view represents the hotel as it appeared January 10, 1894, at which time the process of demolition had just begun.

As an illustration of the value of real estate in this locality, it may be stated, that the whole block, bounded by Broadway, Washington place, Mercer street and Fifth street, was purchased by Luke Kip in 1828 at a cost of \$29,000. A lot 32 feet front on Broadway and 200 feet on Washington place, was sold for \$1,000.

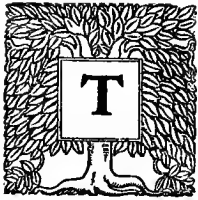


No. 25. FRAUNCES TAVERN.





FRAUNCES' TAVERN



THIS building, on the southeast corner of Pearl and Broad streets, has doubtless attracted more attention than any other in the lower part of the city. The site on which it stands is part of a water lot, granted by the city to Col. Stephanus Van Cortlandt, November 19, 1686. What is now Pearl was then "Dock street," and the south line was the shore of the river. On April 11, 1700, Col. Van Cortlandt and his wife Gertrude, gave to Stephen De Lancy, "their well-beloved son-in-law, all that certain corner lot or toft of ground, containing in length on the north side fronting Dock street, 51 feet, and in breadth fronting the Broad street, 36 feet 6 inches, and bounded east by Philip French and south by the lot they had given to Samuel Bayard." On this place Stephen DeLancy built his home.

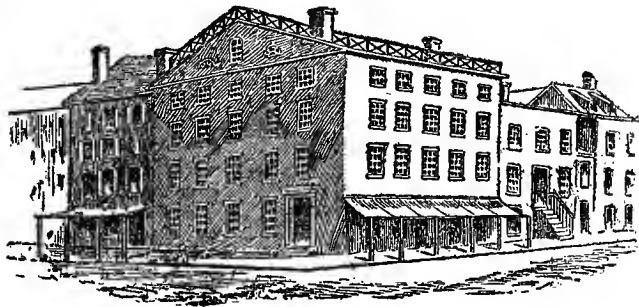
On January 15, 1762, Oliver DeLancy, Beverly Robinson and James Parker sold to Samuel Francis, "inkeeper," the "dwelling house and lot of ground thereto belonging," for the sum of £2,000, Samuel Francis, the inkeeper, came from

the West Indies. He was probably a mulatto, for his dark complexion is evidenced by his nickname of "Black Sam," by which he was popularly known. Here he kept the most popular "inn" in the city, but its fame is derived from the fact, that here in 1783, General Washington took leave of his fellow officers, who under him had brought the Revolution to a successful close. Before the war, the inn was known by the sign of the "Queen's Head," but this was speedily dropped and it was known as "Fraunces' Tavern." In its "Long Room," the meetings of the Chamber of Commerce were held and it was frequented by the most famous men of the time.

"Black Sam" evidently became tired of tavern keeping and made a change, for on April 23, 1785, we find that "Samuel Fraunces, late of the City of New York, innkeeper, but at present of the County of Monmouth, New Jersey, farmer, and Elizabeth his wife," sell to "George Powers, butcher, of Brooklyn," all his dwelling house and lot bounded as above. The price was £1,950, which indicates that real estate has not recovered its former value. George Powers sold it to Dr. Nicholas Romaine, April 30, 1795. At that time prices had risen, for he obtained £2,200, or \$5,500. Dr. Romaine in turn sold to John S. Moore, June 24, 1800. He only kept it a short time and on June 22, 1801, he sold it to Thomas Gardener, for \$7,500. It was then described as bounded "north by Pearl street, formerly Dock street." In the division of the estate of Thomas Gardener, it fell to his son John Gardener. He left two daughters, Mrs. Malvina Kettletas, and Mrs. Jane McCarthy. In the division of estate it fell to the latter, who afterward married Count de

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Dion. She has since deceased, and it is now owned by her children who are living in France. Fraunces' Tavern, was originally but two stories in height, but in later years three more were added. The "Long Room," on the second floor remains practically unchanged since the days before the Revolution. The present indications are that the "march of improvement" will not long spare this interesting relic of the past.



OLD FRAUNCES' TAVERN.

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EALOGICAL NOTES BY ~
WILLIAM S. PELLETREAV, A.M.
PHOTOGRAPHS OF OLD HOUSES
& ORIGINAL ILLUSTRATIONS BY
C.G. MOLLER, JR. √√√√√√√√√√



IN TEN PARTS
PART VI

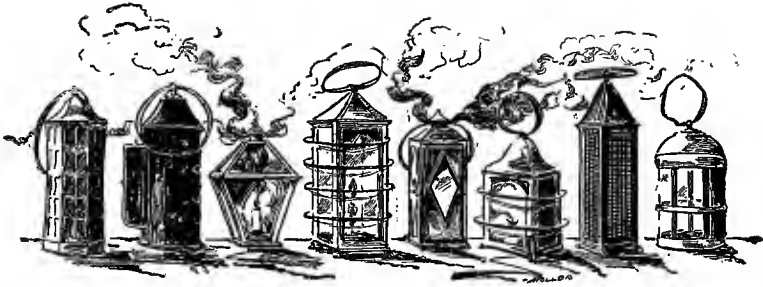
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NEW YORK, A.D. 1900 √√√√√√√√√√



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No. 26. GOVERNMENT HOUSE.





THE GOVERNMENT HOUSE AND ITS SURROUNDINGS



At the time when New York was not only the capital of the state, but also of the nation, it was resolved to erect a mansion for the residence of the president of the new republic, which would be worthy of the city which was honored by his presence. In accordance with this, the "Government House" was built on the site of the old fort, which had been a landmark from the earliest days of New Amsterdam. The removal of the capital of the nation to Philadelphia, and Albany having been made the capital of the state, the object for which the "Government House" was erected, no longer existed. Probably no building in the city, worthy of mention, had so brief an existence. It was destroyed before 1815 and the land sold by the city for private dwellings.

The houses seen in this view on the east side of Whitehall street and on the south side of the ancient Marketfield street, have never been described and as relics of old New York, are worthy of extended mention. The ancient "Mark-

EARLY NEW YORK HOUSES

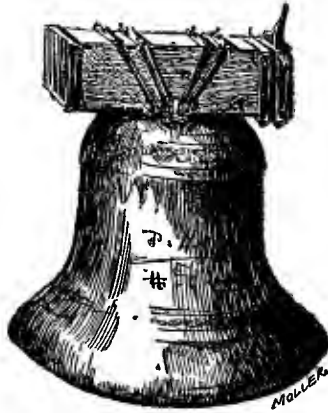
veld Steige," or Marketfield lane, originally extended from the "mark veldt" or market field (now Bowling Green) to Broad street. The eastern part of this street still exists and is one of the very few streets of the Dutch period which has never been widened. The western part of it was discontinued and closed when the Produce Exchange was built. The lot at the north corner of Whitehall and Stone streets was the original house of Frederick Phillipse, the richest man in New Amsterdam. It remained in his family till the time of the Revolution, when it was the city residence of his great grandson Frederick Phillipse, the last Lord of the Manor of Phillipseburgh, in Westchester County. As he adhered to the English cause, his property was confiscated, and this lot with the houses was sold by the Commissioners of Forfeitures, to Isaac Hubble, June 14, 1785, for £1,570, or \$3,925. He divided it into three lots, and sold the south two lots to Captain John Lamb, of Revolutionary fame; the north lot he sold to Daniel Niven, who in turn sold it to Solomon Smith. In 1798 it was owned by his heirs, and they sold it to Isaac Pierson in 1809. Next north of this was a lot which in the earliest Dutch times was the homestead of the De Kay family and owned by Jacobus De Kay. It descended to his son Tennis and from him to his son, Johannes De Kay, who in 1735 sold it to his mother, Helena, widow of Tennis De Kay. She left it to her daughter, Helena, who married Rev. Gerardus Haaghoort, of Second River, New Jersey, and they sold to John Wendell in 1771. It was sold to Isaac Gouverneur, July 16, 1799, for \$2,600. His heirs sold it to Isaac Pierson in 1821.

EARLY NEW YORK HOUSES

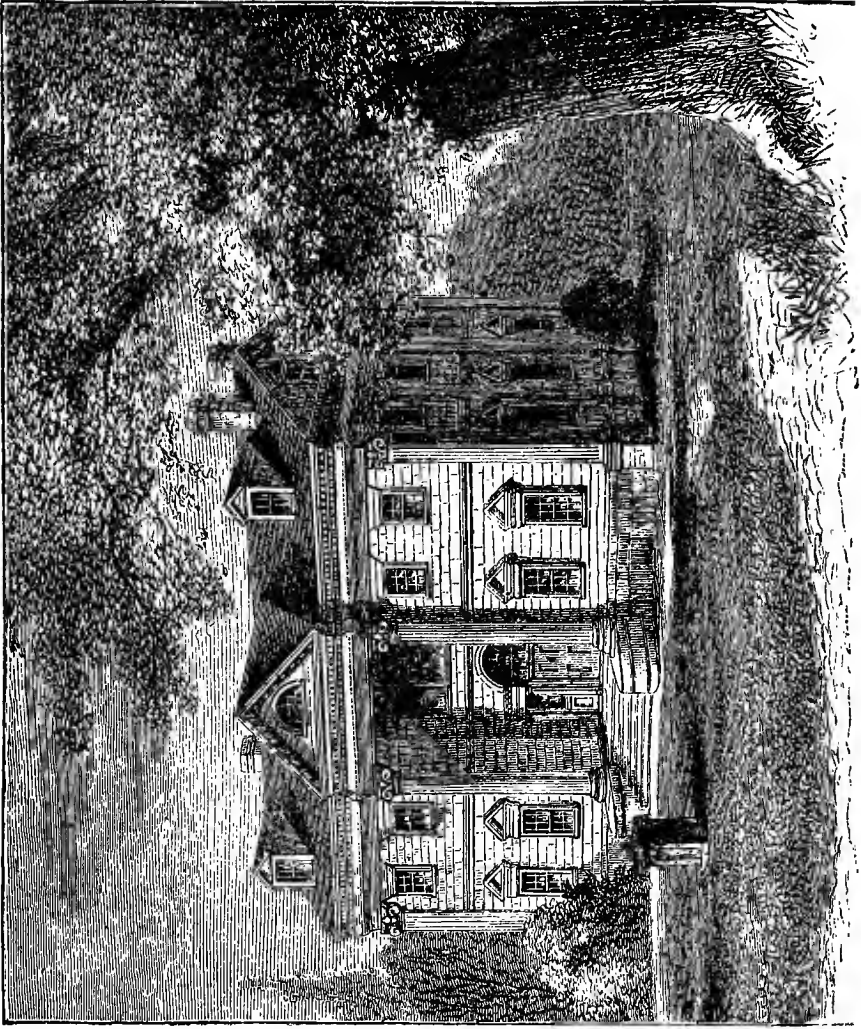
Next north was a lot which was owned by James Walters in 1735. In the latter part of the last century it was owned by Edward Nicoll, who probably built the house. His heirs sold it to Isaac Pierson in 1821.

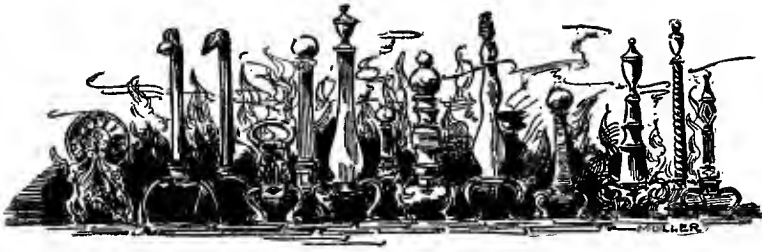
The two houses so conspicuous in the view were built by Captain John Lasher about 1780. In 1806, his son, John B. Lasher, sold the corner house to Jacob Levy, Jr., for \$9,500 and the other to Charles Duryee, for \$8,300. These, with the adjoining buildings, appear to have burned in the great fire of 1849.

The next house east on Marketfield street, was that of James Sergeant, who bought it of Abraham Labagh in 1789. Next east were two houses of John Currie. The farthest house, with the peaked roof, stood on the site of the French Huguenot Church, built in 1686. The Produce Exchange covers the site of all these buildings.



NO. 27. THE APTHORPE MANSION.





THE APTHORPE MANSION



AMONG the most prominent citizens of New York, in the middle of the last century, was Charles Ward Apthorpe. He was a member of the Council and in wealth and social position, stood foremost among the aristocracy of that time. His landed estate included a tract of about two hundred acres on the east side of the Bloomingdale road, and upon this he erected the mansion which has been standing within recent years. It stood on an eminence which overlooked the Hudson, and was considered, and justly, a model of elegant architecture, and in all of its appointments it was not exceeded by any mansion in the vicinity. At the time of the Revolution, he was not an active partisan, and succeeded in convincing the Committee of Safety of his peaceable intentions, and was not disturbed. General Washington made this place his headquarters. It was here that the secret expedition of Nathan Hale, was planned, which brought him an untimely fate, and an immortal name. After the Revolution the family were overtaken by adverse circumstances, and the whole estate with

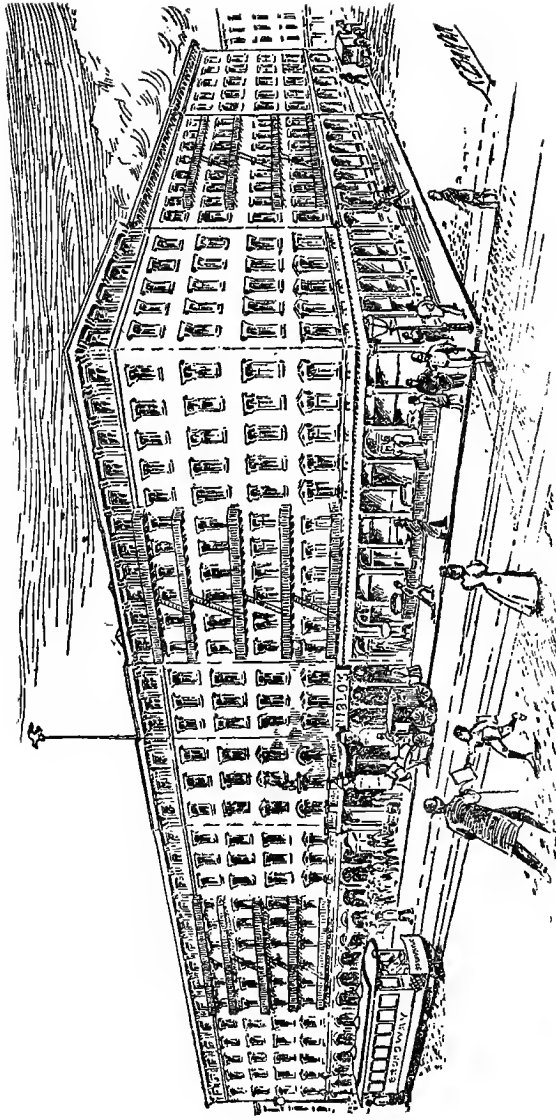
EARLY NEW YORK HOUSES

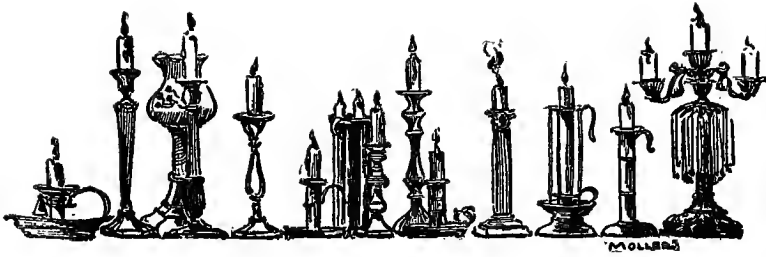
the elegant mansion were sold at Sheriff's sale in 1799, to Hugh Williamson, for \$10,000. Through this estate ran a narrow road called "Apthorpe's Lane," and disputes as to the title have made it of some importance in real estate dealings. It ran through the middle of the block, between 93d and 94th streets, and squatter's taking advantage of this erected small shanties, some of which still remain. The exact location of the mansion was on the north side of 91st street, one hundred feet west of Ninth avenue. In late years, fallen from its high estate, it became a lager beer garden, under the name of "Elm Park," and was a pleasant resort for Germans, surrounded as it was by a portion of its guard of ancient forrest trees. Upon a portion of this estate stood the tree made famous by Gen. George P. Morris, in his immortal poem, "Woodman Spare that Tree." The mansion was taken down in 1886, and with it vanished one of the most beautiful and elegant specimens of colonial architecture.

Charles Ward Apthorpe, who built this residence, died here in May, 1797, at the age of seventy-three. Hon. Hugh Williamson, who purchased it, married a daughter of Mr. Apthorpe. She died young, and her husband, surviving her, died here in 1819.



No. 28. METROPOLITAN HOTEL.





METROPOLITAN HOTEL



IN 1832 Ramsay Crook leased to William Niblo, "two houses and back buildings and eight lots, bounded west by Broadway, south by Prince street, east by Crosby street and north by the house of Isaac E. Kip," and spoken of as "an hotel and garden," and included plants and green houses, which were valued at \$1,923. The annual rent for the whole was \$2,800. Such was the beginning of what was in later years so famous as "Niblo's Garden," one of the most popular resorts in the city. A theatre was later established, which perpetuated the name of the garden, and from the beginning was thronged by the lovers of the drama. In 1851 the entire block was purchased and a hotel was built, which was intended and for many years actually did eclipse all the other hotels in the city. When the Metropolitan Hotel was opened in 1852, it was inaugurated with a stupendous banquet. Stephen A. Douglass, Thomas H. Benton and Samuel Houston, famous men of the nation, were present; voluminous descriptions of the hotel appeared in the newspapers; crowds

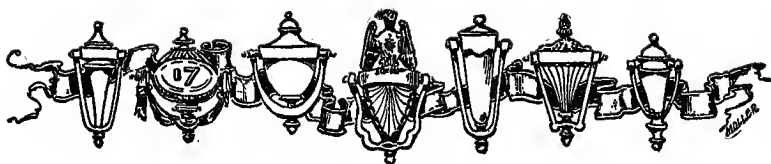
EARLY NEW YORK HOUSES

assembled to gaze upon the building. It was considered by conservative people to be a most unwarranted piece of extravagance, but it was in charge of the Leland brothers, the recognized leaders in the art of hotel keeping and they knew their business. The Metropolitan became at once the most popular hotel in the city, and its complement of 1,000 guests did not fall off and till the time of the war it was the resort of the most famous people of the South. The theatre, which was a part of the immense building, was greatly enlarged. Here was exhibited the "Black Crook," which had a run of 1,000 nights, and for "spectacular gorgeousness," has never been excelled. The theatre held its popularity long after the hotel began to decline. The Lelands, after holding it for twenty years, found that the city was running ahead of them and newer hotels attracted the crowd. They relinquished the place and it was taken by Wm. M. Tweed, who established his son Richard there as manager and opened the new hotel with a blaze of glory. A mighty crowd filled the place and champagne flowed like water. But nothing could restore the ancient prestige. The fall of the "Tweed Ring" only hastened the inevitable. The uptown movement carried popularity along with it and the grand hotel became an unprofitable business. In 1898 it was taken down and business buildings took its place.

When the Astor House was built, it was considered too far out of the city. When the Metropolitan was opened it was considered "far uptown," but the march of fashion has gone still farther and it was left behind in its turn.

No. 29. THE OLD LONDON GATE.





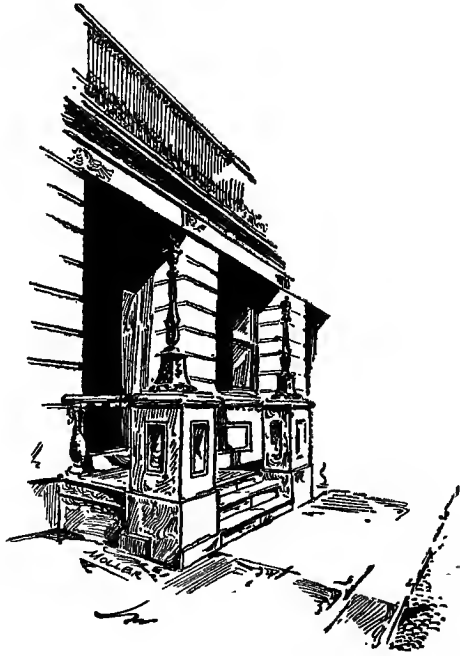
“THE OLD LONDON GATE”



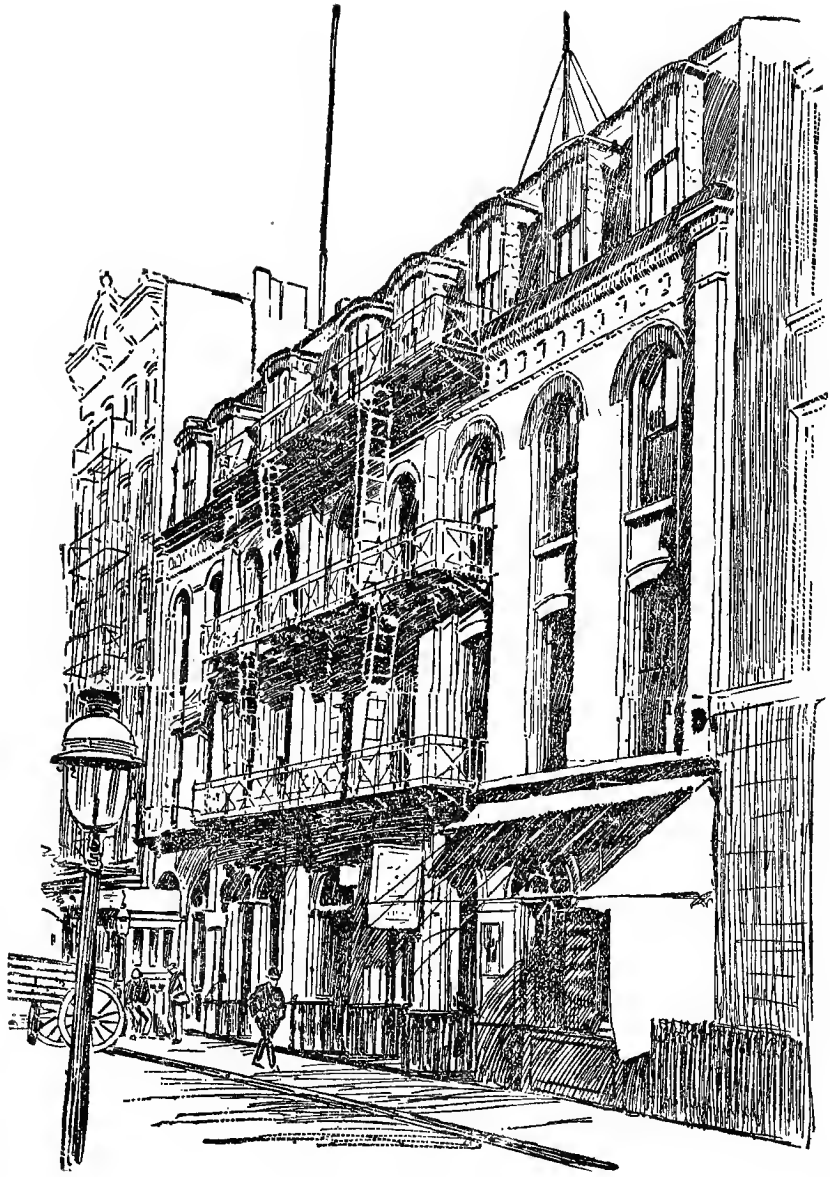
THE view here given can hardly be said to be one of “Old New York,” but its curious appearance, and the fact that it must in the nature of things soon be removed, warrants a full account of it. In 1886, a company of Englishmen conceived the idea of erecting in this city, a building whose front should be a perfect fac-simile of the famous “Bishop’s Gate,” in London, and to be filled with interesting relics of the past centuries, and it was hoped that the curiosity of the public would make such an exhibition a profitable venture. The lot on which it is erected, was where the “Church of the Messiah,” one of the most prominent of the Universalist churches in the city, formerly stood. It is on the east side of Broadway and directly opposite Washington place. The building was duly erected, and among the many curiosities, were large sized models of ancient houses in England, such as the houses of Milton, Defoe, Bunyan, and other men celebrated in history, so that a person entering was introduced to London as it was in the seventeenth century. The

EARLY NEW YORK HOUSES

enterprise was at first successful, and the novelty caused it to be visited by a throng of people, eager to see the dwelling places of a long past age. This novelty, however, soon wore off, and notwithstanding various expedients for attracting visitors, the show ceased to attract, and became unprofitable. The relics and curiosities were finally removed, and the building at the present time is leased to an athletic club. The "Bishop's Gate" goes back to a time when archers and archery were the means of defence against a beleaguering foe. The long narrow slits in the wall, which served for windows, were made with that view, and statues of the saints standing in niches, lend an ecclesiastical appearance to the whole.



No. 30. WALHALLA HALL.





WALHALLA HALL



THIRTY years ago a man named Hardfeldter built the edifice known in late times as Walhalla Hall. It stood at the corner of Grand and Orchard streets. The latter at that time, from Canal street to Houston, was filled by substantial dwelling houses, inhabited by a respectable class of citizens; but one by one they fell before the march of the giant tenements, and Walhalla was about the last to succumb. The social state of the dingy building, No. 48 Orchard street, has kept pace in a great measure with the glass of beer that was sold there from 1868, when it was built, down to recent times. At first the "stein" was tall and well filled and the company was solid. In time the glasses grew smaller, and the company, like the beer, frothier. Adam and Conrad Geib leased the hall from the builder and for many years it was the rallying place for the Germans. After a time it became cosmopolitan and its walls rang with the shouts of all nations. The force of police was constantly increased as the "Bowery Indians," "Plug Hats" and other creators of woe made it

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the scene of their revels. In times of strikes, the idle cloak makers and other garment makers, held meetings there and hundreds slept there who had no other shelter. No place on the "east side" so often resounded with the blatant orations of labor agitators and political demagogues. Walhalla, in Scandinavian mythology, was the place of immortality prepared for the souls of heroes slain in battle, but the battles fought in this modern Walhalla were mostly, though not always, as the police can testify, fought with noisy tongues, by natives of all countries except America.

In December, 1898, the decree went forth that the building no longer profitable, on account of unpaid rent, should give way for a many-storied tenement, and shortly after the relic of the past was demolished and is now only a memory and not a pleasant one at that.



EARLY NEW YORK HOUSES
WITH HISTORICAL & GEN-
EALOGICAL NOTES BY ~
WILLIAM S. PELLETREAV, A.M.
PHOTOGRAPHS OF OLD HOUSES
& ORIGINAL ILLUSTRATIONS BY
C.G. MOLLER, JR. ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~



IN TEN PARTS
PART VII

FRANCIS P. HARPER, PUBLISHER
NEW YORK, A.D. 1900 ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~



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No. 31. HOUSE OF GARRIT FURMAN.





HOUSE OF GARRIT FURMAN, No. 94 MADISON STREET



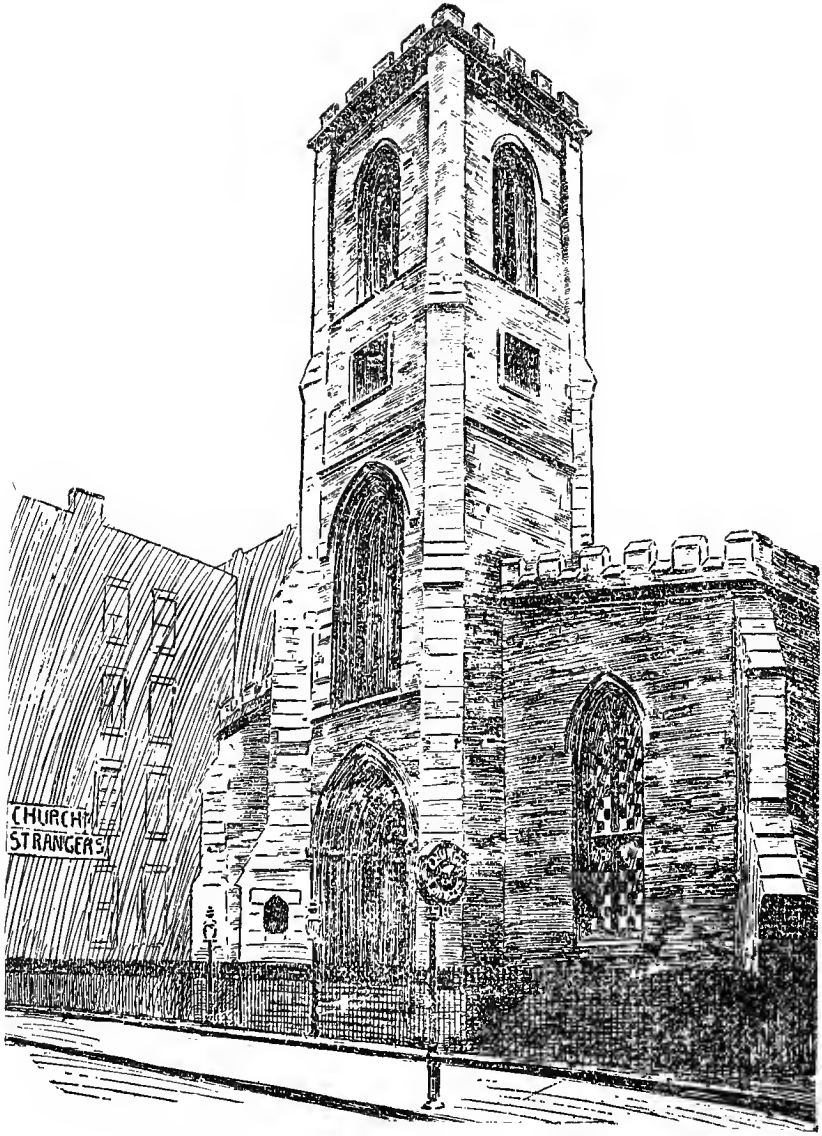
THE farm of Hendrick Rutgers, is one of the most important tracts, which laid out into streets and lots, enlarged the early city. His descendant Henry Rutgers, on February 5, 1827, sold to Garrit Furman, two lots Nos. 466-497. The price was \$4,300. These lots were bounded north by Bancker street, (now Madison,) and south by Lombardy street, (now Monroe,) the one being in the rear of the other. On the former lot, Mr. Furman erected the house which is now No. 94 Madison street, and is a fair example of the better class of residences in the early part of the century. Upon lot 497, he built convenient stables, and between the two was an elegant and well kept garden. This place was the winter residence of Mr. Furman, his country seat being at Maspeth, Long Island, not far from the mansion of Governor De Witt Clinton, of whom he was an intimate and devoted friend. Mr. Furman was born at "White Pot," a locality near Newtown, in 1782, and was for many years actively

engaged in business life in New York. He was also a collector and was possessed of one of the finest mineralogical collections in the state. Mr. Furman married Mary Eaton, of Rocky Point, L. I., a descendant of John Eaton, of Dedham, Massachusetts. To his descendant, Mr. C. G. Moller, Jr., this work is indebted for many of its most interesting illustrations.

After a long life of usefulness and honor, Mr. Furman died at his country seat in Maspeth, June 6, 1848. Mr. Furman, in his intervals of leisure, wrote several works of superior merit. Among them were, "Rural Hours," a poem published with illustrations in 1824. "Napoleon's Grave," a poem which appeared in 1826. The "Maspeth Poems," a book of one hundred and twenty-eight pages illustrated, and with a portrait of the author, engraved by A. B. Durand. "Long Island Miscellanies," by "Rusticus Gent," an illustrated volume.

It is needless to say that the American families of the ancient race, are no longer found dwelling on the streets on the Rutgers' farm. They have long since departed, and their place is usurped by foreigners, whose varied languages make that locality a second Babel.

No. 32. THE CHURCH OF THE STRANGERS.





THE "CHURCH OF THE STRANGERS"



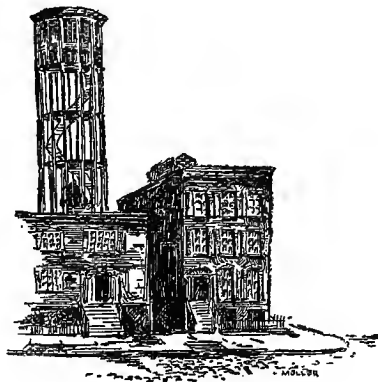
THIS church, which lately stood on the west side of Mercer street, about 125 feet south of Eighth street or Clinton place, is on land leased from the Sailors' Snug Harbor and was built in 1834 for the Mercer street Presbyterian Church, the first pastor being Rev. Dr. Thomas H. Skinner. At that time it was further uptown than any church in the city. The Union Theological Seminary and the first branch of the Young Men's Christian Association were organized within its walls. The congregation about 1866 consolidated with the Presbyterian church on University place and the church became vacant. About that time Rev. Dr. Charles Deems came from the South and began holding non-sectarian meetings in a hall of the University building on Washington square. His preaching attracted the attention of Commodore Vanderbilt, who sent for him and handed him a check for \$50,000 to purchase the church building. To the suggestion of Dr. Deems, that the gift should be made to trustees, the Commodore replied in his

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usual style, "No, sir; some day you'll give those fellows the devil for their sins, and they will turn you out of your own church." And so the property remained in his possession till the time of his death in 1893. He was the only minister in New York who owned the church he preached in.

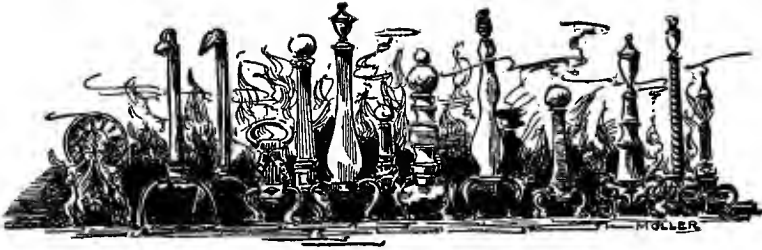
The Church of the Strangers is a Christian Communion, composed of persons who have been members of almost every denomination. It is wholly unsectarian, their symbol of faith being the Apostles' Creed.

After the death of Dr. Deems, the church had no regular pastor, and the church which had so long been thronged with worshippers, was taken down in the summer of 1898 and a large building devoted to trade was erected on its site. We have tried to find a photograph of this building, but none appear to exist.



No. 33. THE JUMEL MANSION.





THE JUMEL MANSION



AMONG the officers of Braddock's fated army, who survived the defeat, was Col. Roger Morris, a man of excellent family and honored lineage. On January 19, 1758, he married Mary Phillipse, daughter of Frederick Phillipse, and brother of Frederick Phillipse, the last Lord of the Manor of Phillipsburg, in Westchester County. Their city residence was the southeast corner of Stone street and Whitehall. Their country seat was a large farm on Harlem heights and extending from the Hudson to the Harlem river. Upon this Col. Morris erected the mansion now standing and which is probably the oldest residence on Manhattan Island. At the time of the Revolution this family adhered to the Crown, and Col. Morris, like his brother-in-law, Col. Beverly Robinson, was an active officer in the British army. When the war was over the estate was confiscated, and on July 9, 1784, Isaac Stoutenburg and Philip Van Cortlandt, as Commissioners of Forfeitures, sold the mansion and farm of one hundred and fifteen acres to John

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Berrien and Isaac Ledyard, for the sum of £2,250. It is described as situated "on Harlem Heights, and forfeited to the People of this State by the attainder of Col. Roger Morris." It was on both sides of the old Albany Post road and is spoken of as being "between the tenth and eleventh milestones."

The executors of John Berrien sold his half to Anthony L. Bleecker, April 15, 1791, for £1,000. The share of Isaac Ledyard was afterwards owned by Theodore Hopkins and Michael Foy, "merchants of London," and on February 1, 1792, they also sold their half to Anthony L. Bleecker, for £1,000. The price thus paid for the whole was \$5,000.

Mr. Bleecker sold the whole to Wm. Kenyon, September 25, 1793, and he in turn conveyed it to Leonard Parkinson, "of Hinnersley Castle, Hereford, England," August 29, 1799, the price being £3,000, or \$7,500. His son, Leonard Parkinson, lived on the place for several years, and on April 28, 1810, he sold the whole to Stephen Jumel for \$10,000. Stephen Jumel was a Frenchman and a merchant of wealth and luxurious tastes. The mansion was quickly refurnished in most magnificent style, and "Lordly as a Jumel banquet," became a proverb.

In all these things he was ably seconded by his wife, a woman of vast ambition, and "Madame Jumel" became a power in the social world.

In May, 1832, wearied and broken down and satiated with the pleasures of the world, Stephen Jumel died and his widow came in possession of the estate.

Long before this Madame Jumel formed the acquaintance of Aaron Burr, who quickly formed the plan of mending his

EARLY NEW YORK HOUSES

own fallen fortunes by marrying the wealthy widow. His suit was successful, and on July 1, 1833, they were married, but in Madame Jumel, Burr found a person whose temper and will were more than a match for his own. A brief period of stormy married life was followed by a separation and the acquaintance was never renewed.

Madame Jumel died at an advanced age in 1865, and then followed long and expensive law suits, only decided in recent years. The woman, who was in her youth a leader in society, died a recluse and a miser.

The famous mansion stands near the southeast corner of the original estate and is the home of Gen. and Mrs. Ferdinand P. Earle. Mrs. Earle and her distinguished husband are well-known members of various patriotic societies, and under their control, the glories of the mansion in the past are once more renewed.

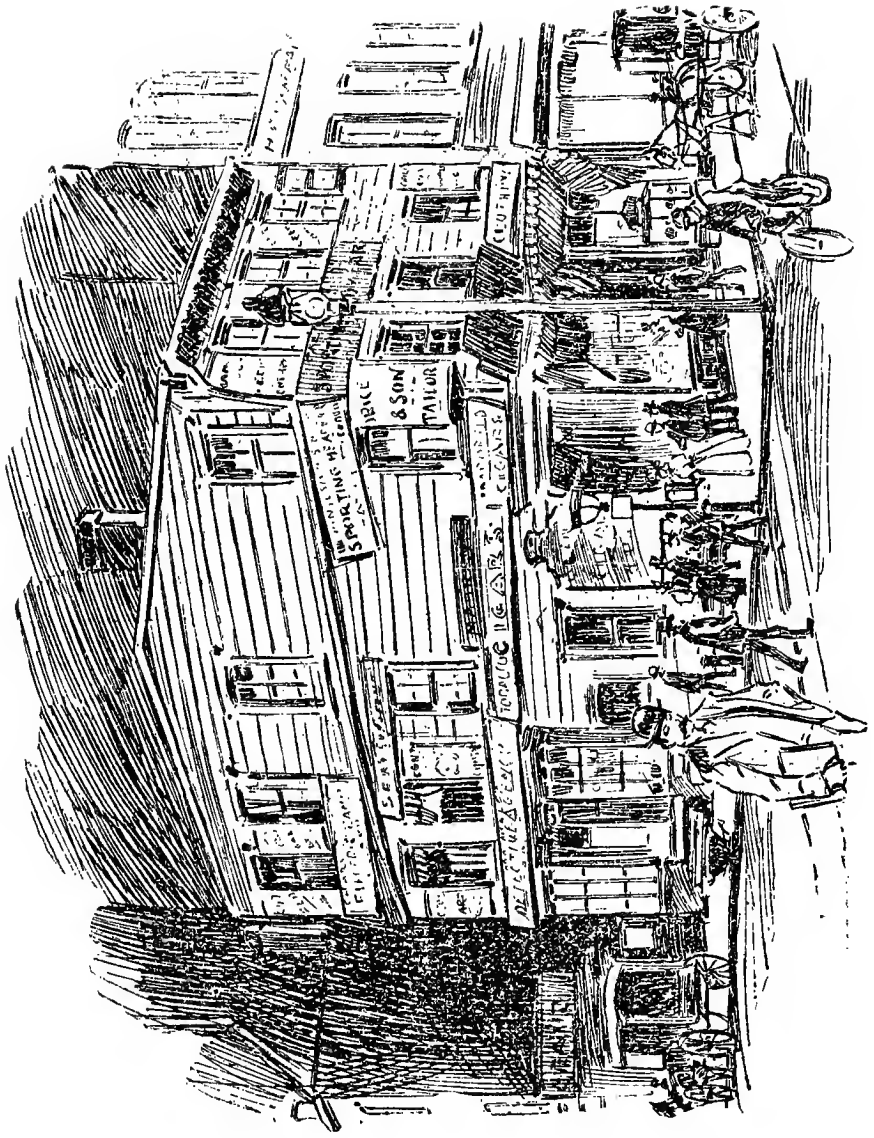
Col. Roger Morris died in Chester, England, 1794. His widow survived him many years and died in 1825.

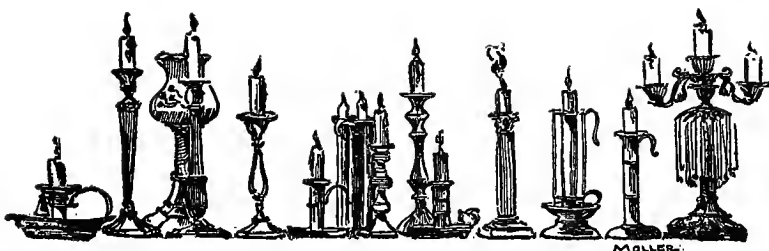


COL. ROGER MORRIS.

MARY PHILLIPSE—MRS. COL. ROGER MORRIS.

No. 34. THE GEMMELL HOUSE, DUANE AND BROADWAY.





THE GEMMELL HOUSE DUANE AND BROADWAY.



THIS house which was the oldest building on Broadway at the time of its destruction is a curious instance of the changes in value of real estate irrespective of the buildings erected upon it.

In the latter part of the last century Broadway practically stopped at Chambers street, and when the Lispenard farm or meadows was laid into lots this street was extended through them. A portion of this tract fell to Henry Barclay as one of the heirs of the estate, and on August 18, 1786 his executors sold to John Harvey, "grocer," lot number 5, bounded west by Broadway, north by Anthony street (now Duane), south by lot number 6 and east by lot number 9. This lot was 23 feet 7 inches wide and 86 feet in length. The price was £100 or \$250 and shows very plainly what was then considered the value of an eligible building lot at that time, in a region that was "out of the city."

On this lot John Harvey, "grocer," built a small wooden house which stood for over a century. He was evidently un-

EARLY NEW YORK HOUSES

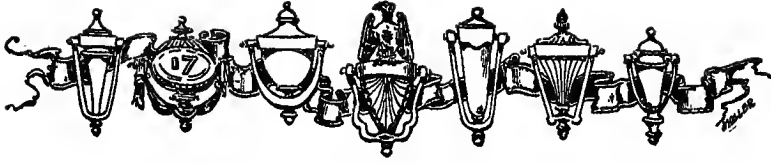
successful in business, for he made an assignment to Wm. Alexander, a prominent merchant, who sold the house and lot to Peter Bruce, "merchant," April 22, 1796, for £790 or \$1,975. Mr. Bruce occupied it during his life and left it to his children George L., Robert W., William W., Mary and Ann L. wife of Dr. Gerardus A. Cooper. They mortgaged it to the Eagle Fire Insurance Company in 1818 for \$7,000 in gold, and on foreclosure it was sold at auction to the Company for \$8,600, which shows a great advance in value.

The purchasers sold it to James Gemmell, "grocer," Jan. 6, 1825, for \$9,000. It remained unchanged in the possession of the heirs of James Gemmell till 1898, when it was sold to the Astors, and was demolished in the summer of that year and a large business building erected upon its site. This house and lot is on the north part of what was in old times the "Negroes Burying Ground" and when the large building on the north corner of Broadway and Reade street was erected in 1897, the bones of its former occupants were exposed by the excavation. The price paid for the house and lot in 1898 is said to have been \$200,000, showing the wonderful increase in value within one century. This interesting relic of the past was taken down in summer of 1898.



No. 35. THE HOUSES ON BOWLING GREEN.





THE HOUSES AT BOWLING GREEN



WHEN the Dutch settled on Manhattan Island, their first work was to build a fort, as a much needed protection from the savage tribes, and in honor of the city in "fatherland," they called it "Fort Amsterdam." Within the walls of this fort were all the public buildings, including the church, and here all public business was transacted, until the time when the Stadt House was built on Pearl street opposite Coenties slip. After the English conquest, the fort took the name of the sovereigns who occupied the British throne, beginning as Fort James and ending as Fort George. After the Revolution it became the property of the state of New York. The ancient fort was leveled to the ground and a large and expensive mansion was erected for the use of the Governor. When the Capitol was removed to Albany it was no longer needed. The state sold the land to the city. The lots bounded south by Pearl street (which is the oldest street in the city), were originally bounded north by the fort.

EARLY NEW YORK HOUSES

In 1808 Bridge street was extended to State street. This left a narrow strip of land on the south side of the street, which was sold to the owners of the lots on Pearl street. The remainder of the land was divided into lots and sold at public auction, on Tuesday, June 16, 1815. The following map shows the lots with the names of the purchasers and prices paid. The purchasers of lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, built the houses in 1818. Lot 6, was sold to May Black, who also built in 1818. Noah Brown sold lot 7 to Harriet Fulton, widow of the famous Robert Fulton and she sold it to Stephen Whitney, who built the house now standing in 1825. These houses were built for private residences in what was then the most fashionable part of the city, and it was never supposed that they would be used for business purposes.

When Whitehall street was widened, in 1852, almost the whole of lot 1 was taken, leaving a strip about two feet wide, which is shown in the view.

About twenty years since, these elegant houses were abandoned as private residences, and almost the whole of them have since been used as steamship offices.

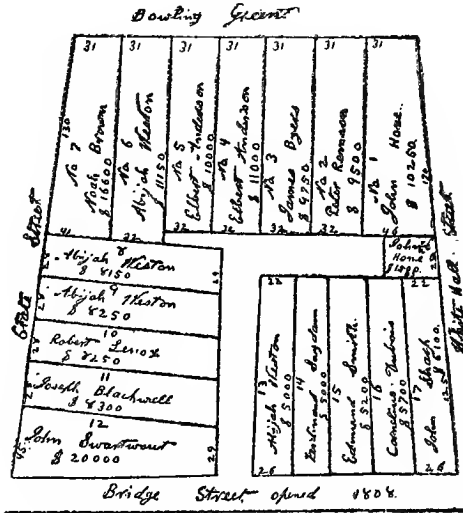
In 1899 the entire block was bought by the United States as a site for a new Custom House, and the work of demolishing the buildings was begun in February, 1900.

The annexed map shows the "Government House Lots," as sold in 1815, with names of purchasers and prices paid.

Lot 9 was sold in 1828 to "Daniel Webster, Esq., of the town of Boston," a name not unknown in our country's

EARLY NEW YORK HOUSES

annals. This was the only piece of land the great statesman ever owned in this city.



EARLY NEW YORK HOUSES
WITH HISTORICAL & GEN-
EALOGICAL NOTES BY ~
WILLIAM S. PELLETREAV, A.M.
PHOTOGRAPHS OF OLD HOUSES
& ORIGINAL ILLUSTRATIONS BY
C.G. MOLLER, JR. √√√√√√√√√√



IN TEN PARTS
PART VIII

FRANCIS P. HARPER, PUBLISHER
NEW YORK, A.D. 1900 √√√√√√√√√√



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No. 36. HOUSE NO. 28 CLIFF STREET.





HOUSE NO. 28 CLIFF STREET.



ON August 9, 1681, Dirck Vander Clyff, purchased from Henry Ryckens, a tract of land bounded south by Maiden Lane, north by the farm of Wm. Beekman, west by the Shoemakers' Pasture, and east by the rear line of lots that fronted on what is now Pearl street, but then the "Smiths' vly." There was a "wide alley" leading from this tract to the river side, and this alley, made a great deal wider, is now John street. On this tract Dirck Van der Clyff had an orchard and a house of entertainment where gentlemen could eat and drink and enjoy themselves. Through this tract he opened a narrow street; which is first mentioned November 13, 1686, and is the present Cliff street. He sold to Daniel Butts on the above date a house lot on what is now the southwest corner of John street and Cliff street. The lot was 42 feet wide and 120 feet long "English measure," the price being stated with great minuteness, as £31 19s. 4d. 1 farthing.

The house No. 28 Cliff street, of which a view is given, was built by Isaac Underhill about 1815, and is a fair sample

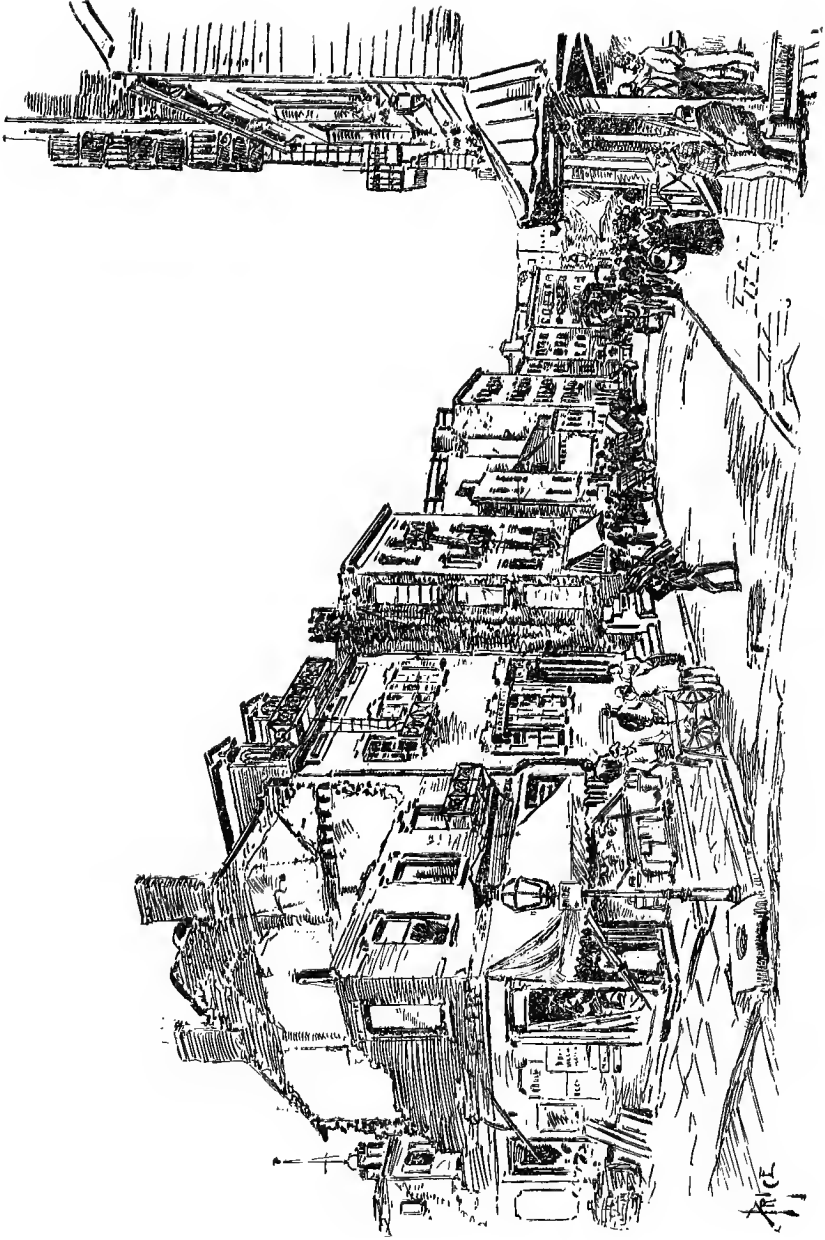
EARLY NEW YORK HOUSES

of what was then considered a very comfortable and respectable residence in a desirable locality. Isaac Underhill met with financial reverses, and on May 5, 1823, the house and lot was sold on foreclosure of mortgage to Samuel Baker Harper, for \$6,120, which gives a fair idea as to the value at that day. It has remained in possession of the family till the present time, and is now owned by the children of James Philip Harper, who obtained it from his father, Samuel B. Harper, in exchange for the house No. 45 St. Mark's place. The house No. 26 Cliff street was formerly the residence of Anthony Franklin, of a well known Quaker family very prominent in past days. No. 30 was the house of Henry Haydock, a prominent merchant in the early part of the century. At that time it was a street of private residences, inhabited by families of respectable standing, there was not much "business" above Maiden Lane, except on Pearl street.

Samuel B. Harper married Christina Arcularius daughter of Phillip J. Arcularius a well known leather merchant of his day. They had five children. Andrew Merrill, who married Isabella Anderson, Amanda, wife of Wm. H. Sackett, Selina E., wife of Andrew Dimmock, James Philip, who married Margaret Perego, and Margaret M., wife of Oliver S. Fleet.

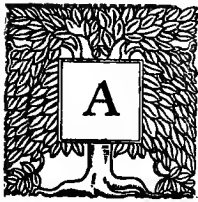


No. 37. MULBERRY BEND.





MULBERRY BEND



PERSON who examines the map of New York, will notice the "bends" or angles in Mulberry and Baxter streets. These bends mark the boundary between two large tracts of land in the olden times, the Bayard farm on the north, and the Kingston tract on the south. This was named from John Kingston, a blacksmith who bought it over a hundred years ago from the heirs of Philip Minthorne, who was one of the city aldermen. In 1771 Kingston laid out his tract in lots. A street running across the tract was called "Cross street," (now Park). Mott street, named from Jacob Mott, who bought a large lot. Orange street, (now Baxter), Mulberry street, and Little Water street, (now Mission place), because it lay next to the Fresh Water Pond. In 1795 the Bayard farm was laid out, and the old streets were extended, but not on the same line, and hence the "bends." A large number of these lots were bought by Edward Livingston, and other prominent men and in due time the streets were built up with cheap houses destined eventually

EARLY NEW YORK HOUSES

to become the habitations of the worst and most dangerous classes.

In 1895 it was deemed for the best interests of the city to buy up the entire block, bounded by Park street, Mulberry street, Baxter street and Bayard street, and lay it out as a park or breathing place for the teeming population that crowded the neighborhood. At that time no part of the city had a worse reputation for crime of all kinds. Thieves and murderers found a safe refuge in the squalid tenements of the "bend." The buildings were sold at auction for trifling sums, and quickly removed by the purchasers, while the teeming population scattered to parts unknown. In the place of this scene of crime and wickedness there is now a beautiful park, and the effect upon the neighborhood has been most beneficial. The building seen in the view on Baxter street, was built by Felix O'Neil. "Bottle Alley" was between Nos. 45-47 Baxter street. It was a nest of rookeries noted for brawls and beer. Many a man was murdered in Bottle Alley. In 1854 Cross street was changed to Park street, on petition of the mission society, in hopes that change of name might change its nature. In the same year Orange street was changed to Baxter, in honor of Lieut. Col. Charles Baxter, who was killed at the storming of Chapultepec, in the Mexican war.

"Bandits Roost" was a wretched locality, it was an opening between Nos. 57-59 Mulberry street. Never a week passed but that an arrest for some heinous crime was made in "Bandits Roost." The lot on Mulberry street, next south of the "bend," was owned by Thomas Arden, a wealthy merchant, whose residence was on Pearl street, the addition made to the

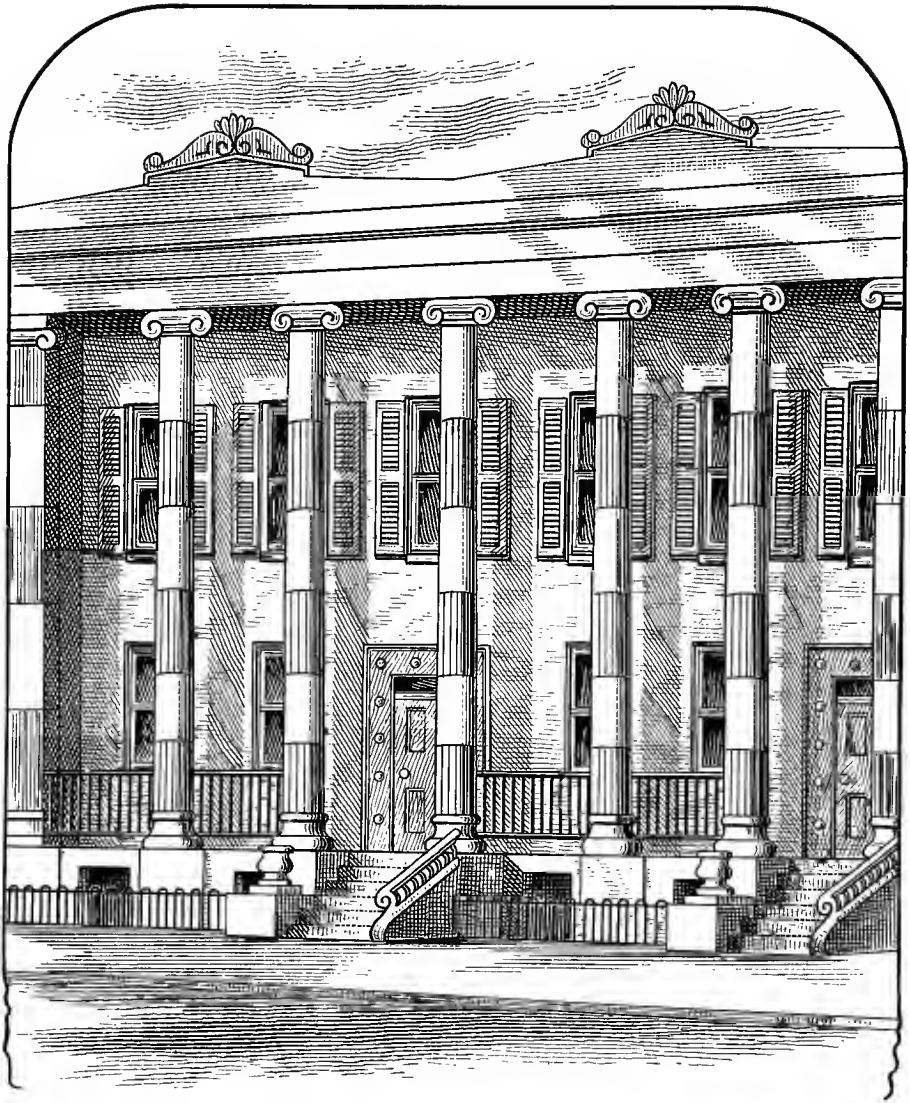
EARLY NEW YORK HOUSES

Police Gazette office stands on its site. The lot north of the "bend" was a part of the Bayard farm, and was sold in early times to Stephen Van Rensellar, and by his heirs to Patrick Quinn, who was the first Irishman in a locality where they afterwards swarmed. Wide lots on both sides of the "bend" on Baxter street, were owned by Peter Schermerhorn, who erected the buildings which remained till the whole was demolished. The houses shown in the view of Mulberry street were built by Edward Livingston and others about 1830. The average price of a lot on this tract in early times was about \$300. It is needless to say that it was never fashionable.



BOTTLE ALLEY.

No. 38. THE COLONNADE HOUSES ON BROADWAY.





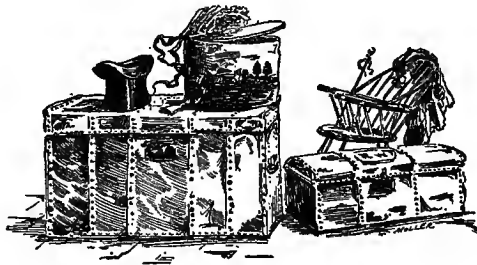
THE COLONNADE HOUSES ON BROADWAY



WHEN the farm of Elbert Herring was divided among his heirs, lot No. 3 fell to the share of Nicholas Herring. It was bounded on the west by Broadway, or what was then "Great George street," and extended from what is now No. 718 Broadway, to a point about 145 feet north of Fourth street. It extended east of Lafayette place. This lot was sold by Nicholas Herring, to Anthony L. Bleecker, May 12, 1789, for £325, or \$812. He divided it into fourteen lots. On June 1, 1833, Elisha Bloomer, "hatter," purchased the two northermost lots, No. 13 and 14 for \$15,600. Upon these lots he erected two houses exactly alike and called them the "Colonnade Houses. They were Nos. 714-716 Broadway. He sold the house No. 714, to Smith Ely, a very prominent citizen for \$30,000, and he made an agreement with him that "whereas the two houses are built in such style and manner as to present an entire front of great beauty and elegance, and the marring and defacing or alteration of either might depreciate the value of the other," it was agreed that neither

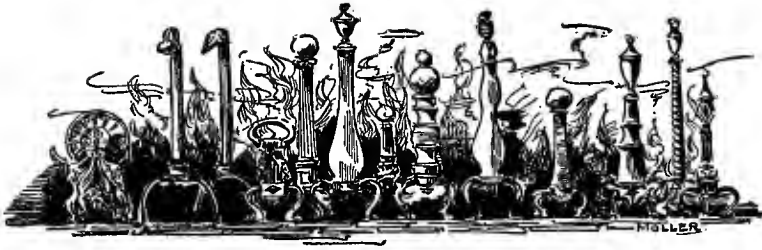
EARLY NEW YORK HOUSES

should be changed without the consent of the owner of the other. No. 716 was sold to John Moon, for the same price in 1836. At that time it was occupied by Philip Hone, who was the "gentleman" mayor of New York in 1826, the rent was \$1,600 a year. Afterwards there came a great depression in real estate, and both these houses were sold under foreclosure in 1841 for \$28,000. No. 714 passed through many hands and was torn down many years ago. No. 716 was sold to Charles G. Ferris, August 17, 1844, for \$16,250. He was very prominent as a lawyer and politician, and at one time the collector of the port of New York. He was a personal friend of President Jackson, who frequently visited at this house. The last of Mr. Ferris' heirs to live in the mansion was his daughter Mrs. Caroline F. Lewis, who died there about 1887. It was sold by order of court in a partition suit among the heirs of Mr. Ferris, to Jacob and William Scholle, May 22, 1889, for \$75,500. It was then torn down and the present building erected in its place. These two houses stood directly opposite Washington place, and with the exception of the Goelet house were the last stylish residences on Broadway.



No. 39. HEBREW SYNAGOGUE, WEST 19TH STREET.





HEBREW SYNAGOGUE, WEST 19TH STREET



IN the latter part of the seventeenth century, a colony of Portuguese Jews, fleeing from persecution in their own land came to New York. Finding here protection and safety, they increased in numbers and wealth. Among the records in the Register's Office is a deed from Jacob Melyn to Katherine Kerfbyl, dated October 30, 1700. It conveys a house and lot, bounded south by Mill street, north by David Provost and Lawrence Van Hook, west by David Provost, and east "by the house and ground of John Harperdingh, now commonly known by the name of the Jew's Synagogue." This is the first mention of a synagogue in this city and seems to have escaped the notice of all the historians. The house of John Harperdingh is now No. 20 South William street. How long the Jews had occupied this house is unknown, but it was long enough to have gained its popular designation. On December 19, 1728 Cornelius Clopper sold to Lewis Gomez, Jacob Franks, Mordecai Gomez and Rodrigo Pacheco, a lot bounded south "by the street commonly called

the Mill street," west by the house and lot of James Alexander, Esq., north by Lawrence Van Hook and Samuel Lancelot, east by Cornelius Clopper. The purchasers were the representatives of the Jewish congregation, and on this lot they built a synagogue and gave it the name of Shearith Israel (the Remnant of Israel), and here they worshipped the God of their ancestors for more than a hundred years. The place is now No. 24-26 South William street. In 1758 Cornelius Clopper, Jr., sold them a lot on the east, and this and a small subsequent purchase extended the synagogue lot to what is now the Goelet Lot, No. 18, on the same street. On the south side of the building was a marble tablet bearing the following inscription: "The Holy Congregation of Shearith Israel in the year 5490." In 1833 the congregation sold the entire property to George Dickey, for \$40,000, and built a new synagogue at No. 58 Crosby street. The increasing numbers and importance of the society rendered a much larger structure desirable, and on February 4, 1859, they purchased from Victor Barselon, a lot seventy feet wide on the north side of west 19th street, 100 feet west of Fifth avenue, the price being \$25,000. Upon this they erected the synagogue of which a view is given, and was then the finest building of the kind in the United States. The corner stone was laid on the ninth day of the month Tamooz, 5619, (July 11, 1859), and the building was consecrated with imposing ceremonies on the twenty-fifth day of Elool, 5620, (September 12, 1860). The view shows the synagogue and its surroundings as it appeared in 1898. The building on the extreme right was the house of Henry Parish, on Fifth avenue, erected in 1860.

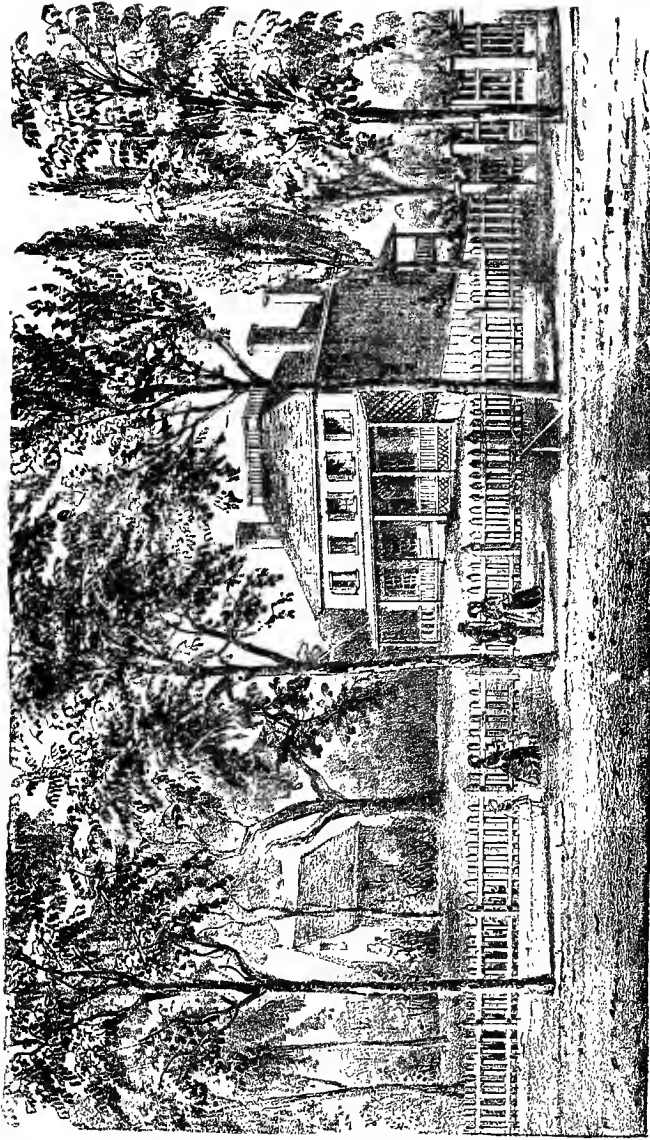
EARLY NEW YORK HOUSES

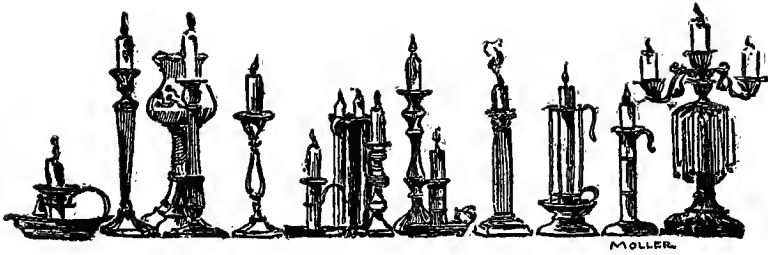
The synagogue and entire property was sold May 26, 1898, to Wm. K. Everdell, for \$135,000, and the Society of the "Remnant of Israel" now worship in an edifice of great grandeur on Central Park west.



FIRST SYNAGOGUE ON MILL STREET
FROM A SKETCH BY DAVID GRIM

NO. 40. THE VAN NESS MANSION.





THE VAN NESS MANSION



IN the days before the revolution, a large tract of land in that part of New York, known as "Greenwich Village," was owned by Oliver De Lancy. One of his daughters married Sir Peter Warren, an officer in the British navy, and the tract came into his possession. Sir Peter died in England, in 1752, leaving three daughters. Charlotte who married the Earl of Abingdon. Ann, wife of Lord Southampton, and Susannah, wife of Col. William Skinner. The part of the farm which lay west of "Old Greenwich Lane," now Greenwich avenue, was sold by the Earl of Abingdon and his wife to David H. Mallows, in 1786. Upon this tract stood the mansion house of Sir Peter Warren, or rather his country seat, for it was then far from the city. In 1794 it was purchased by Abijah Hammond, a brave officer in the revolution. He afterwards became a real estate speculator, and owned more land in New York than any other man, but died at length in honest poverty. The mansion stood on the block now bounded by Bleecker, Perry Charles and west Fourth

EARLY NEW YORK HOUSES

streets, and the entire block was sold by Mr. Hammond, to Whitehead Fish, a very prominent citizen and wealthy merchant. Mr. Fish made this his residence till the time of his death in 1819. It was sold by his heirs to Abraham Van Ness, for \$15,000. He lived in it for many years and saw the great city gradually take the place of the country village. The land having become very valuable, the venerable mansion was destroyed after the death of Mr. Van Ness, which occurred September 1864, and the entire block is now covered with private residences. It was probably the last of the dwelling places of famous men, which built before the revolution, survived till recent times.

In 1746, during an epidemic of small pox in the city, the General Assembly of the Province of New York, accepted the invitation of Sir Peter Warren, to occupy this mansion, and during that period all state papers were dated at "Greenwich."



EARLY NEW YORK HOUSES
WITH HISTORICAL & GEN-
EALOGICAL NOTES BY ~
WILLIAM S. PELLETREAV, A.M.
PHOTOGRAPHS OF OLD HOUSES
& ORIGINAL ILLUSTRATIONS BY
C.G. MOLLER, JR. ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~



IN TEN PARTS
PART IX

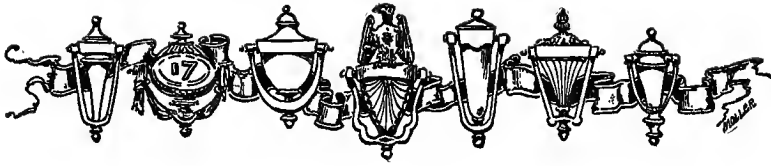
FRANCIS P. HARPER, PUBLISHER
NEW YORK, A.D. 1900 ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~



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NO. 41. LAST DWELLING ON UNION SQUARE.





LAST DWELLING HOUSE ON UNION SQUARE.



THE lots on the east side of Union Square are a part of the farm which in the early part of the century was owned by Cornelius Tiebout Williams, and were leased by him to Samuel B. Ruggles, May 1, 1834, for the term of thirty years, the rent for each lot being fifty dollars. Upon some of these lots he built brick houses, and on February 12, 1841, he sold to Richard Tighe "late of Ireland, but now of the City of New York," the brick house, with the lot No. 18, which was 25 feet south of Sixteenth street; for the remainder of the term of years named in his lease. The price was \$14,000. In 1850 Richard Tighe bought from the heirs of Cornelius T. Williams, the reversion of the lease for the sum of \$6,500, making his title in fee simple. This house is now No. 32 Union Square.

Richard Tighe was born in Ireland in 1806, and came to this city when 32 years of age. He was the second son of an Irish baronet and the title reverted to him, but it was one of his many eccentricities that he refused to accept it. For many

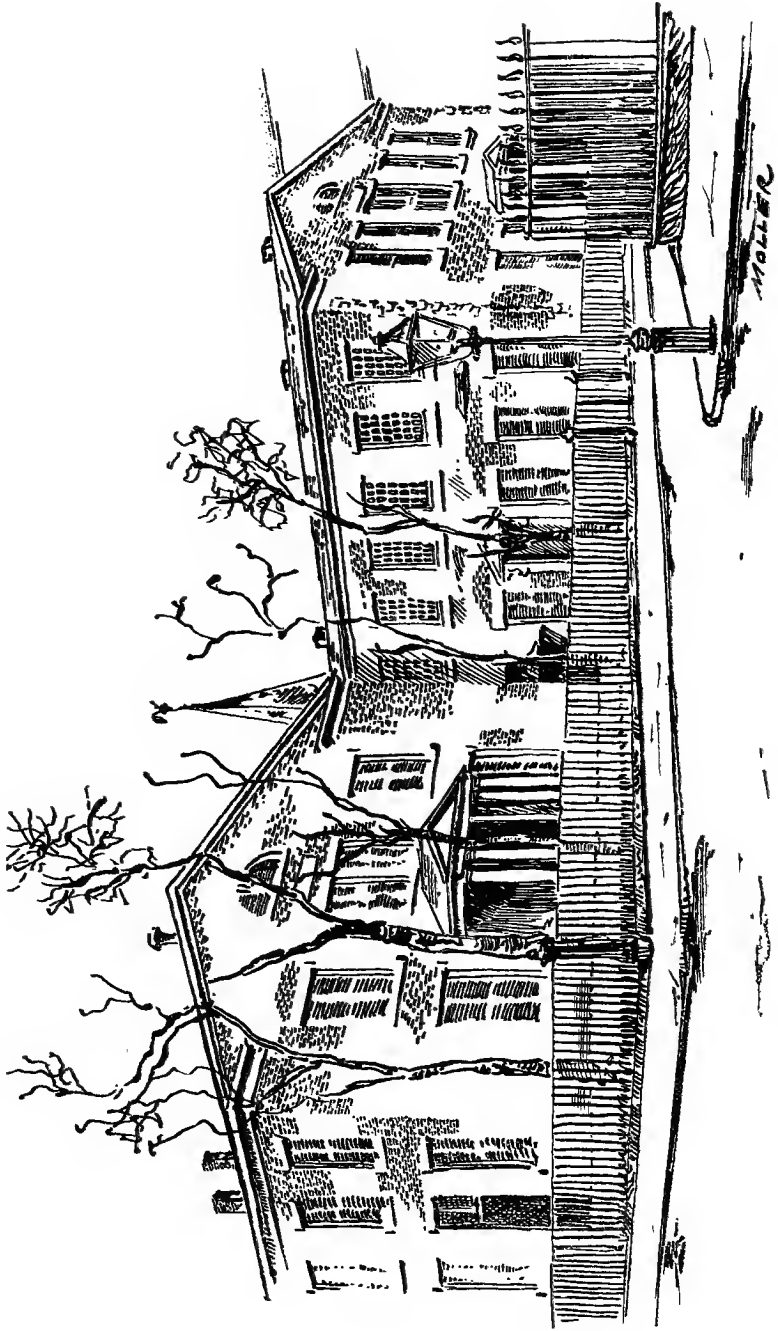
EARLY NEW YORK HOUSES

years he was a director in the Manhattan Fire Insurance Company. He was a man of learning, having been educated in Trinity College, Dublin. The house of which a view is given is said to have been one of the first two residences built on Union Square, and unlike all the rest, it has remained unchanged. Mr. Tighe married Miss Caroline Cheesebrough, and he was a brother-in-law of Robert I. Cheesebrough, Philip Kearny and Nicholas Stuyvesant. Mrs. Tighe died in 1891 and Mr. Tighe continued to live in the old house, alone with his servants. He died as he had lived, a plain American, in May 1896, at the age of ninety, and his late residence is the last private dwelling on Union Square.

The house on the north side of Sixteenth street was built by George A. Hearne about 1836, and was considered at the time one of the finest on Union Square.



NO. 42. FRIENDS' MEETING HOUSE AND SCHOOL.





FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE AND SCHOOL, RUTHERFORD PLACE



IN the latter part of the seventeenth century, several families of Quakers, mostly from Flushing, Long Island, took up their residence in New York. At that time no religious societies except the Church of England, had any official existence though all sects were tolerated. Places for worship were necessarily purchased in the names of private citizens who held the title with a tacit agreement that it was for the benefit of the religious society of which they formed a part. As early as 1696 several Quakers purchased a lot on the west side of "Green street," a narrow lane running from "Little Queen street," (now Liberty street), to Maiden lane, "Green street" is now Liberty place, and on the lot thus purchased they erected the first Friends meeting house in New York. The location was fifty feet south of Maiden lane. The ground around it was used as a burial place. In after years a new meeting house was built on the north side of Liberty street a little west of Liberty place. This remained till 1836,

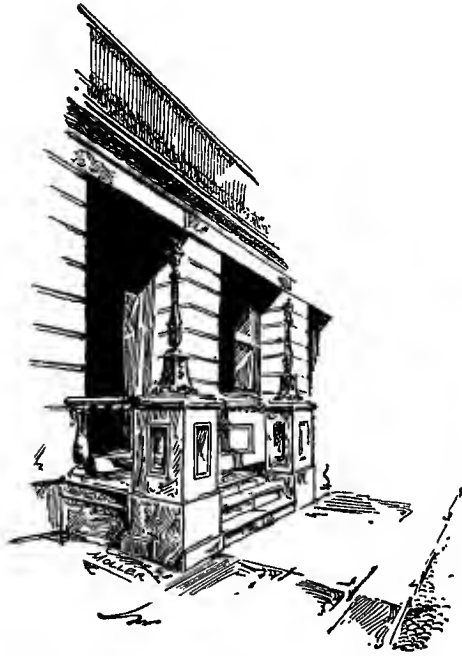
EARLY NEW YORK HOUSES

when it was sold to Grant Thorburn, whose reminiscences of his early life in New York, are valuable and interesting. The Friends, after this built meeting houses on Pearl street, Rose street and several other localities. The great schism between "Hicksites" and Orthodox Friends, affected the sect in this city as elsewhere. Elias Hicks, the founder of that branch known as Hicksites, was born in Hempstead, Long Island, the 19th day of 3d month 1748. He was the son of John and Martha Hicks. In early manhood he became one of the most active and energetic preachers, which the society has ever known, and his travels extended wherever members of this sect could be found. He and his followers entertained certain views which soon made a complete separation between them and the "Orthodox." In some cases they erected separate places of worship. In several instances the original meeting house was divided, a partition separating the two portions. In New York an amicable division of property was made. At the present time the orthodox, diminished to a handful, worship in a neat meeting house on Grammercy park. The Hicksites are far more numerous. Elias Hicks died at Jericho, Long Island, on the 27th day of 2d month 1830, and his remains rest in the burial ground, by the meeting house he built in that village.

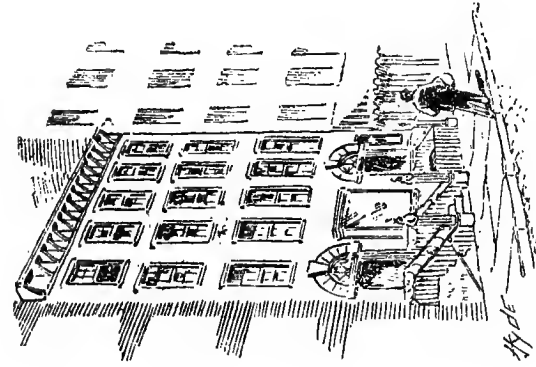
On June 30, 1860, Charles T. Bunting, sold to Robert R. Willets, Charles A. Macy and others, a lot which includes the entire front on Rutherford place, between 15th and 16th streets. The price was \$65,000. It was held by them "in trust for the monthly meeting of the Society of Friends." Upon this tract they erected the meeting house and school

EARLY NEW YORK HOUSES

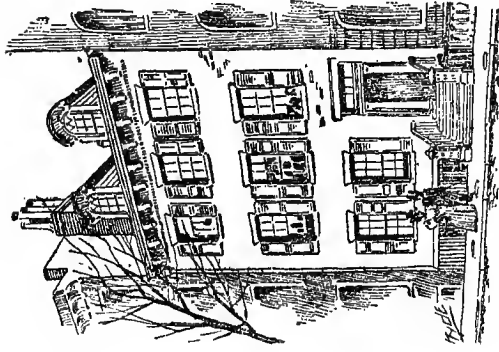
building of which a view is given, and are models of neat economy in building.



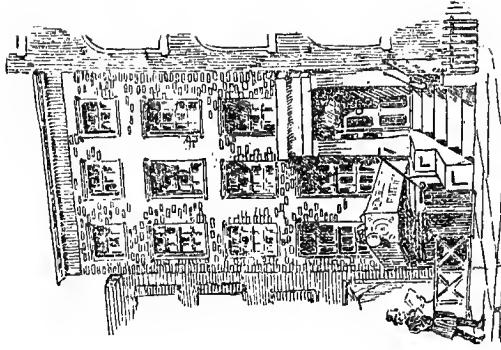
No. 43. DWELLINGS OF FAMOUS MEN OF THE PAST.



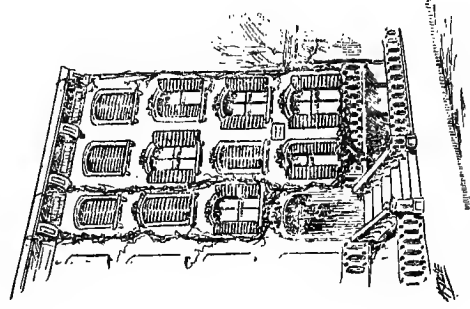
MOSES TAYLOR'S HOUSE.



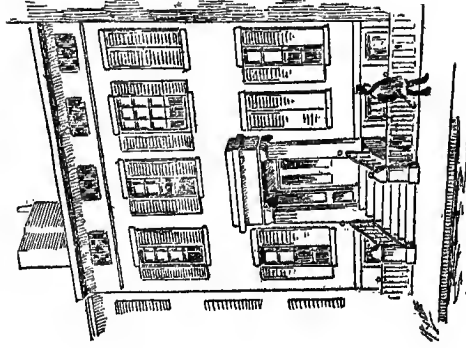
COL. NICHOLAS FISH'S HOUSE.



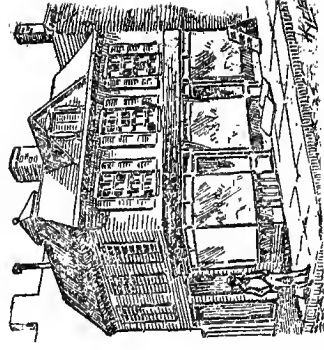
THE OLD HARPER HOUSE.



OLD HOME OF MORSE.



EDWIN FORREST'S HOME.



PETER COOPER'S HOME.



DWELLINGS OF FAMOUS MEN OF THE PAST



THE group of views here presented are of interest chiefly from the fact that they were the residences of famous men of a past generation, but whose names are all written on the rolls of fame.

At No. 5 West 22d street is a massive brown-stone front mansion, one of several built at the same time and in the same style. A marble tablet in front informs the passer-by that in this house Prof. Samuel F. Morse, the inventor of the telegraph, lived for many years, and died here, April 2, 1872. At the present time (April, 1900), this interesting relic of the past the home of one of the greatest inventors that ever lived, is in process of destruction, and will be superseded by a larger building for business purposes.

Nos. 22-24 Greenwich street are relics of a time when that locality was one of the most aristocratic portions of the city. The former was once the home of Moses Taylor, a merchant prince owner of steamship lines and foremost among the business men of this great city. The latter was the

EARLY NEW YORK HOUSES

dwelling place of Henry Suydam, one of the wealthiest "blue bloods" of the city, with an ancestry stretching back to the days of New Amsterdam. These houses retain much of their original elegance, as seen in the quaint doors and beautifully wrought newel posts. No. 24 is now occupied by a Swedish Protective Society and the entire neighborhood is inhabited by foreigners.

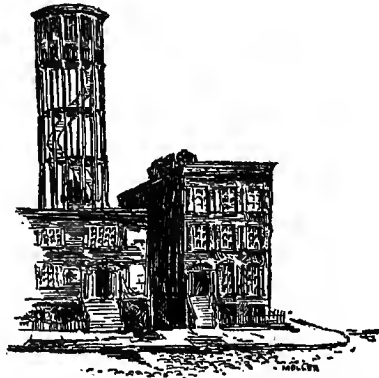
No. 21 Stuyvesant street was once the house of Col. Nicholas Fish, a brave officer in the army of the Revolution. A fortunate marriage with a member of the Stuyvesant family made him and his descendants wealthy. The house was once surrounded by beautiful gardens, but this has long since given place to "flat houses" and stores. The front remains the same as it was in 1824, when Lafayette was entertained with lavish hospitality.

In No. 436 West 22d once lived the famous actor, Edwin Forest. Here with his wife, Katharine Sinclair, a beautiful English woman, he dwelt for many years, while at the summit of his fame. At his receptions he entertained many of the most distinguished men of his day, unthinking of the domestic unhappiness that made wretched his later years.

At No. 48 Rose Street once lived James Harper, one of the famous family of publishers and who was mayor of the city from 1844 to 1847. The house was built about 1840, and is one of the very few old-time houses now left on that street, and it is sadly changed from its former respectability. The basement is now a saloon. The two lamps, which are always put in front of the mayor's house, have long since disappeared, but the place where they once stood can readily be seen.

EARLY NEW YORK HOUSES

The home of Peter Cooper, the famous philanthropist to whom New York is indebted for one of its greatest public buildings; now far removed from its original site, stands on the southeast corner of Fourth avenue and 28th street. It was built at the beginning of the century and occupied the place where the Cooper Institute now stands. It was carefully removed to its present locality in 1820.

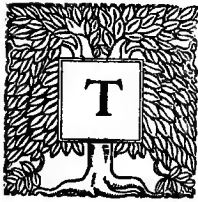


NO. 44. ASBURY METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.





ASBURY METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH



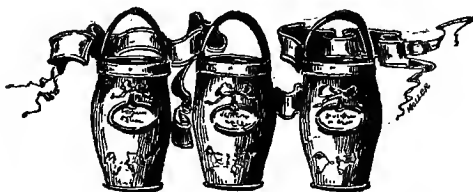
WHEN the old South Dutch Church in Garden street, (now Exchange place), was destroyed in the great fire of 1835, the congregation divided into two parts. One of them retained the old name and built a church on Murray street. This congregation is now the Old South Dutch Church on Madison avenue. The other part purchased lots on the east side of Washington square, and here they built a church known as the "Dutch Reformed Church on Washington Square." For many years this was one of the principal churches in the city and had a large and wealthy congregation. In later years they were scattered to various parts of New York, and the church as an organization ceased to exist. In 1876 the church edifice was sold to the "Greene street Methodist Episcopal Church." For several years it was one of the most prominent churches of that denomination. The name was changed to the "Asbury Methodist Episcopal Church" in honor of a former bishop. The same causes that led to the disorganization of the former congregation operated

EARLY NEW YORK HOUSES

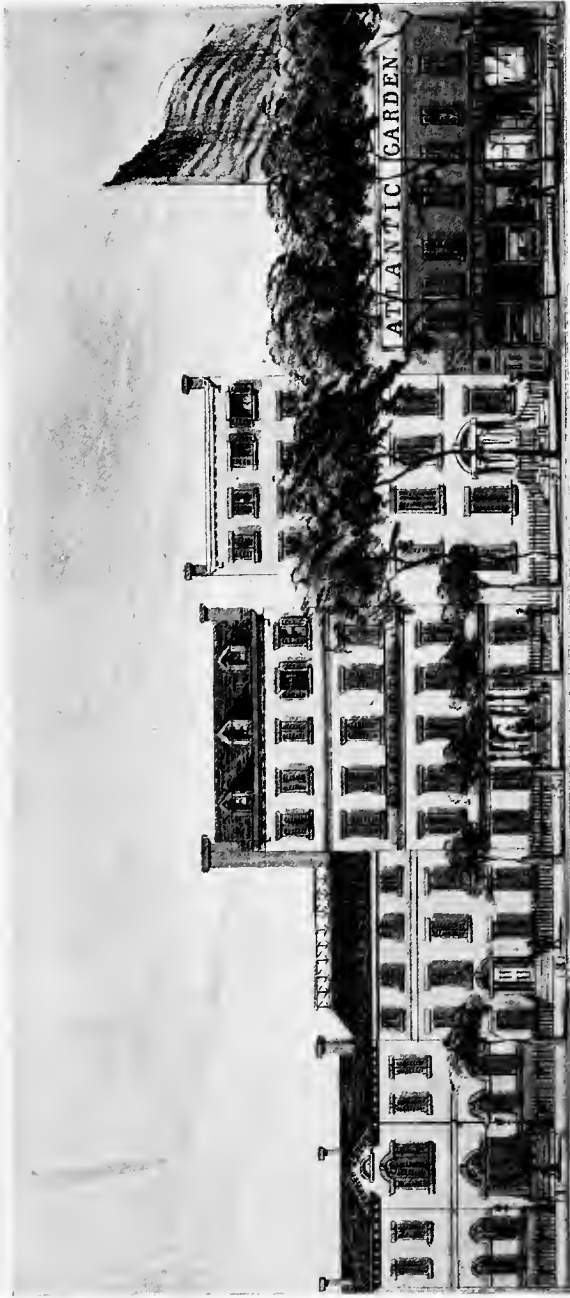
in this case. Change of population and removal to other portions of the city reduced the church to a very small number of members, and it was deemed advisable to dispose of the church property and unite with the Methodist church on Fourth street. This was done and the church and lot was sold to Boehm & Coon, and the edifice that had so long been an ornament to the city was taken down in the summer of 1895 and a large business building erected in its place. It stood on the southeast corner of Washington Square and Washington place, opposite the University of the City of New York.

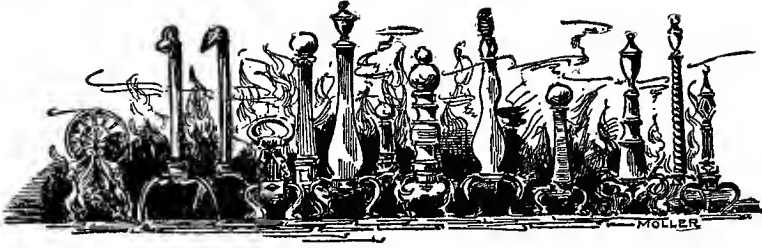
Upon a tablet over the main entrance was the following inscription :

Asbury
M. E. Church
Formerly of Greene Street.
Organized A. D. 1831.
Removed to this Building
April A. D. 1876.
"The best of all is
God is with us."
J. Wesley.

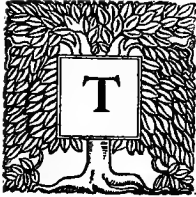


No. 45. WEST SIDE BROADWAY, OPPOSITE BOWLING GREEN.





BROADWAY, WEST SIDE OPPOSITE BOWLING GREEN.



THIS row of houses, No. 1 to No. 11 Broadway, are interesting from the fact that the history of these lots goes back to the very earliest days of New Amsterdam. The houses themselves have all disappeared and two immense buildings are now seen in their place. Through the kindness of Mr. Edward F. DeLancy we are able to present this view.

No. 1 was owned in the earliest days by a Dutch settler named Pieter Koeck, who left it to his wife, Anatje, and her name was Anglicized into Ann Cox. She afterward married Lodowycck Post. The early records mention that once when a vessel arrived from Europe the captain found the Governor "attending a wedding at the house of the widow Cox," from which we conclude that she was a member of "high society." It was afterwards purchased by Frederick Phillipse, the rich merchant of earliest New York, and was bought from his heirs by Abraham De Peyster. When it came into his possession there were on the lot "an old decayed messuage," and in their

remained in the possession of his descendants till recent times.

No. 7 is one of the very few pieces of property for which there is an unbroken chain of record title from the original "Ground Brief" or grant from the Dutch government down to the present time. On July 2, 1643, it was granted by the Director General to Jacob Jacobsen Rooz. He built a house, and sold it to Abraham Ver Planck, August 13, 1649. He in turn sold it to Dirck Bensinck "of Fort Orange" (now Albany), April 15, 1651. He sold it to Rev. Johanes Megapolensis, "minister of the Holy Gospel here," May 3, 1655. The reverend clergyman sold it to Cornelius Van Ruyven, "Secretary and Receiver of the Hon. West India Company," March 10, 1663, and he conveyed it to Gabriel Minville (who was afterwards mayor of the city), June 10, 1672. Gabriel Minville died in 1697. His widow, Susannah, married Capt. William Smith, and the heirs sold the place to him January 13th, 1706.

It descended to his grandson Wm. Peartree Smith, and he sold the place to Mary Alexander the widow of James Alexander a famous man in his day. Mrs. Alexander left children; William Alexander, known as Earl of Stirling, and a brave general in the Revolution, Mary wife of Peter Van Brugh Livingston, Catherine wife of Walter Rutherford, Susanah, and Elizabeth wife of John Stevens. No family of that time was more noted or more respectable. Mr. Stevens purchased the place from the rest of the heirs March 30, 1761, and at a later date he built the mansion of which a view is given. It remained in his family till 1821 when it was sold to Wm. Edgar and it has been in his possession of his descendants till recent years.

EARLY NEW YORK HOUSES

Nos. 9 and 11 were originally one lot and first owned by Jacob Jacobsen Rooz, who sold it to Abraham Ver Planck and he conveyed it to Rev. Johannes Megapolensis. Before 1690 it was owned by Jacobus Bayard and descended from him to his son Jacobus, and his grandson Balthazar Bayard. They built the large double house which was standing till recent times. About 1720 it was mortgaged to Augustus Jay, and the principal and interest amounted to £600 (\$1,500) "which is more than the value of the premises." Balthazar Bayard sold the whole to Augustus Jay in payment of the debt June 28, 1728. He left it to his three daughters Mary Valette, Frances Van Cortlandt and Judith Van Horn. The last died and her share was conveyed to the other sisters. Mary Valette sold her share to John Chambers, a noted lawyer in his day. The lot was divided and he took the north part, Frances Van Cortlandt having the south half. The whole afterwards came in possession of Augustus Van Cortlandt and his brother James, the north part eventually coming in possession of Mrs. Eve White a sister of Augustus Van Cortlandt, and the whole remained in the hands of the descendants of the Van Cortlandts till modern times. In 1848 the place, somewhat changed from its original form, was a noted place of entertainment known as the "Atlantic Gardens." The statement that this place was the tavern, known in former days as "Burns' Coffee House" is an error which deserves correction.



ORIGINAL VIEW OF NOS. 9 AND 11 BROADWAY.

EARLY NEW YORK HOUSES
WITH HISTORICAL & GEN-
EALOGICAL NOTES BY ~
WILLIAM S. PELLETREAV, A.M.
PHOTOGRAPHS OF OLD HOUSES
& ORIGINAL ILLUSTRATIONS BY
C.G. MOLLER, JR. ~~~~~



IN TEN PARTS
PART X

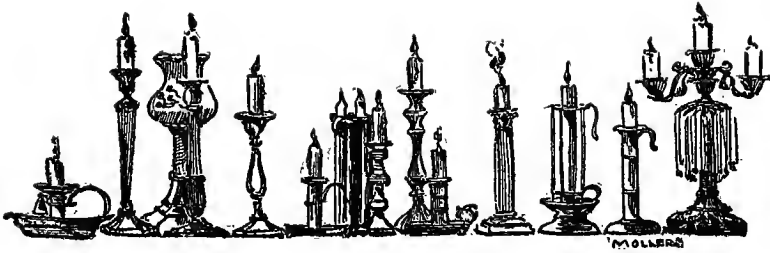
FRANCIS P. HARPER, PUBLISHER
NEW YORK, A.D. 1900 ~~~~~



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No. 46. FIVE POINTS IN 1860.





THE "FIVE POINTS" IN 1860



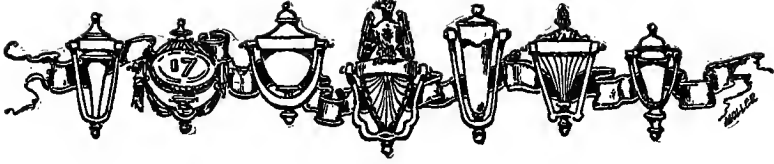
THE region known by the above name is a part of what was known in the early days of New York as the "Kingston Tract." Of the streets laid out upon it, one was called "Little Water street" (now Mission Place), from the fact that the lots fronting upon it were bounded on the west by the "Fresh Water Pond." This short street runs due north and south. Another was called "Anthony street" (now Worth street), while a third was named "Cross street" (now Park street. These three streets enclosed a triangular tract. Little Water street extended into the middle of a block, and from these streets and corners the region was called the "Five Points." The triangular tract was covered with houses of the cheapest kind, inhabited by the vilest class of inhabitants. They were owned by wealthy citizens who never lived in them. Their homes were in the aristocratic neighborhoods of lower Broadway and Fulton street. Edward Livingston, at one time, mayor of the city, owned twenty-one houses in this vicinity in 1803. In 1834, the triangular tract was purchased

by the city and all the buildings removed, and the open space thus made is now known as "Paradise Park," probably from the fact that it is as unlike Paradise as anything can possibly be. The streets surrounding it still retain their original character. Vice and crime in all their phases run full riot there. For those who had the morbid desire to see wickedness with its accompanying misery, the Five Points was the place to go. The Ladies' Home Missionary Society was organized in 1844, and to redeem this part of the city was its earliest aim. On Cross street, opposite Little Water street, was a collection of tumble down buildings known as the "Old Brewery," erected by Isaac Coulthard at the beginning of the century. It was the resort of the most dangerous classes and riot and murder were of frequent occurrence. In 1852, the premises were sold to a committee representing the Society. The "Old Brewery" was demolished and on its site was erected, in 1853, the "Five Points Mission House," and no building ever erected in New York has been productive of greater good. This building remained till 1894, when it was torn down and replaced by the present building on a much larger scale for the same beneficent purpose. When Abraham Lincoln made his first visit to New York, in 1860, he visited the mission school on Sunday and made an address to the scholars.

In the view, the spectator is looking east on "Anthony" street, now Worth street.

NO. 47. STATE STREET IN EARLY TIMES.





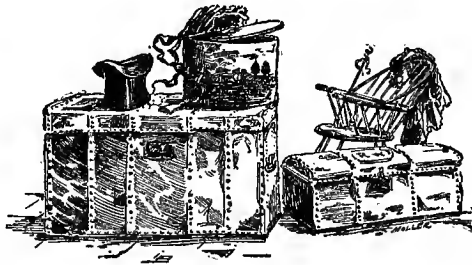
STATE STREET



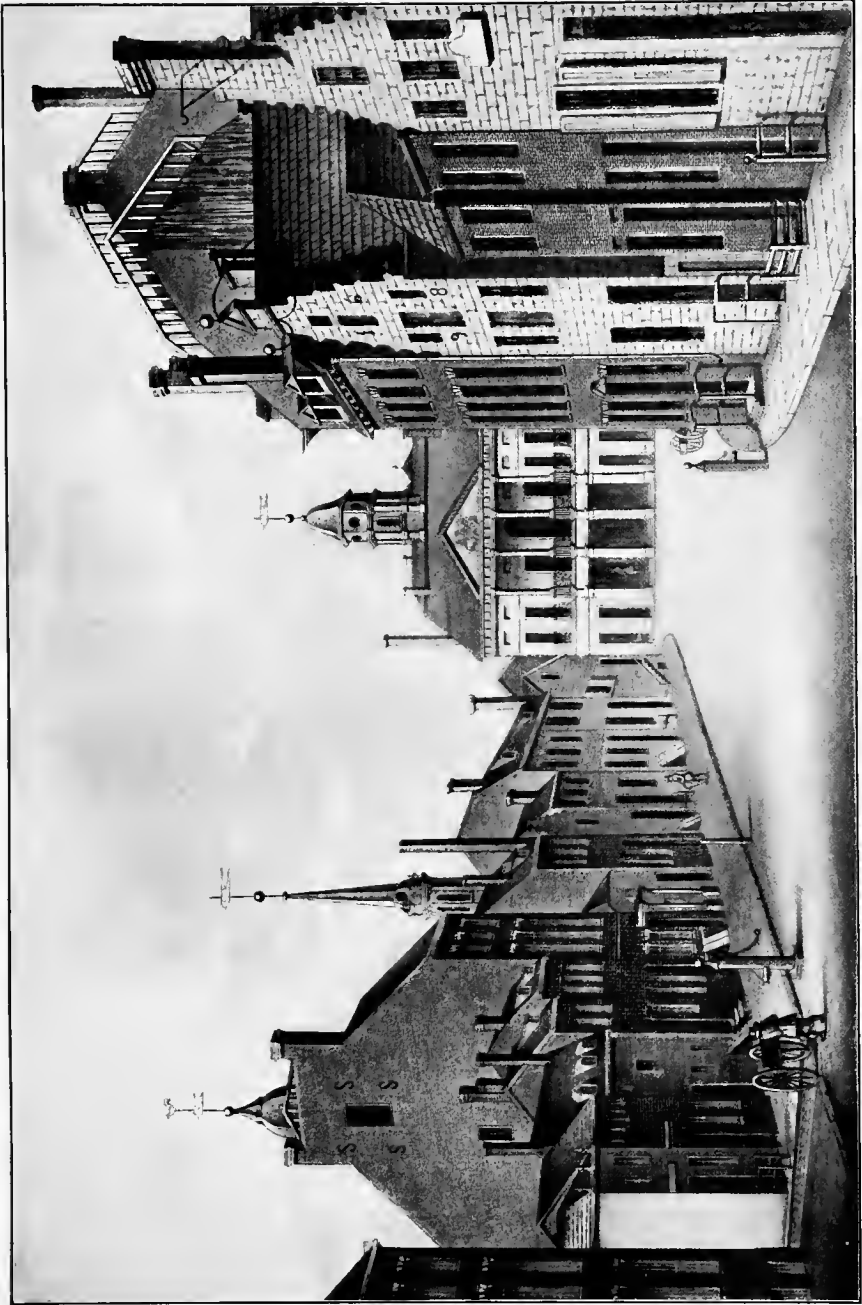
THE view represents the east side of State street south of Bowling green, and has been kindly furnished by Mr. Edward F. De Lancey. The most prominent building is the end view of the mansion erected by Stephen Whitney, and in its day one of the most elegant and stately residences in the city. As the houses fronting on Bowling Green were all built and occupied by wealthy and distinguished families, they were known by the popular name of "Quality Row," and of these mansions that of Stephen Whitney was, for size and location, decidedly the best. One of its peculiarities was that the windows were made of tinted glass imported from Europe, and considered something extremely elegant. Some of the window panes still remained when the house was torn down in the spring of 1900. In the rear of the Whitney mansion was an elegant garden, a glimpse of which is shown. In recent years when "Quality Row" ceased to be a residence locality, the land became far too valuable for gardens, and two or three buildings were erected and occupied as steamship

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agencies and boarding houses for emigrants. The second house seen in the view stands on lot No. 8 of the "Government House Lots." The lot was purchased by Abijah Weston, and was sold by him to James D. Wolfe, and he built the house. Lot No. 9 was also purchased by Abijah Weston, but seems to have remained vacant for some years. It passed through several hands and in 1828 it was sold by the United States Marshal, to satisfy a judgment, to Daniel Webster, "of the Town of Boston," a name not unknown in our country's annals. This was the only lot that the great orator ever owned in this city, and he did not own it long for he sold it to Thomas William Ludlow in 1829, and he erected the house upon it. In 1832 it was bought by Joseph P. Phoenix. The third house seen was built and owned by Robert Lenox. All these houses were very desirable as residences, as they fronted on the Battery, which was then as favorite a resort for pleasant walks and conversation as Central park is at the present time. All three of these houses were torn down many years ago, and buildings better adapted for business erected in their place.



No. 48. BROAD STREET IN 1796.





BROAD STREET IN 1796



THE engraving presents a view of what is now the most valuable land on the American Continent and of buildings that have long since disappeared. The tract on both sides of Broad street was, in Dutch times, known as the "Schaape Waytie," or "Sheep Pasture." The canal that once extended almost to Wall street was called the "Heer Gracht," or "Princes Graft," and its filling up in later years made Broad street worthy of its name. A very wide lot on both sides of the street was granted to Rev. Samuel Drissius, the Dutch minister, and the titles trace back to his heirs.

The entire tract is shown on the west side, from Wall street to what was called in the Dutch times, Verlattenbergh street (or Barkhill street), so-called from piles of bark used in a tannery, which was there in very early days. This was corrupted into "Flatten barracks," and is now Exchange place. A brief sketch of these houses will be given. No. 2, at the corner of Wall street, was in the early part of the seventeenth century owned by Wm. Smith, "merchant." His

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son, Wm. Peartree Smith, sold it to Nathaniel McKinley, July 24, 1759, for £200. The ancient deeds describe it as 16 feet 8 inches wide, and 30 feet long, "Dutch measure," or 15 feet 4 inches wide and 27 feet 6 inches long, English measure. The heirs of McKinley sold it to the city of New York, May 19, 1796, for £800, or \$2,000. Nos. 4-6 was a wide lot with two houses, and in 1796 was owned by George Walgrove. The lot was 42 feet 5 inches wide. His heirs sold the whole to Christopher Heiser in 1825, for \$12,100. No. 8 was owned by Anthony La Tour, "hair dresser," whose name and occupation show his French origin. He sold it in 1800 to John Shatzel, for \$2,950.

Nos. 10-12 were two lots and houses, which in 1791 were sold by Thomas Barrow, "limner," to Dr. James Tillary, Robert Lenox, James Renwick, Rev. John Mason, D.D. and ten others, all of Scotch ancestry, and they organized as St. Andrew's Society. One of the lots extended to New street. They sold the whole to George Douglass, Jr., in 1794 for £2,700, or \$6,750. No. 14 was sold by David Sandford, "cordwainer," to David Coutant, "turner," 1773. He seems to have owned it in 1796. The price he paid was £350. The house was probably a very small one. No. 16 was the home of John Morrin Scott, famous in Revolutionary days. He sold it to John King in 1760. He sold it to James A. Stewart, 1793, for £700.

No. 18 was owned by Luke John Kierstede, and he sold it to LeMontes Noe, in 1793, for £1,175, or \$2,937. This is the large house seen in the engraving with the four characters like an S near the top. His daughter, Helen Noe, sold it to

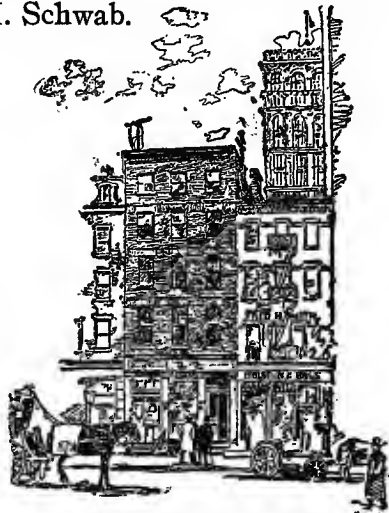
Jacob Binniger in 1833, for \$20,000. No. 22 was the house of Peter Wilson, Professor of Languages in Columbia College. He sold it to Charles Clarkson, 1798. No. 24 was owned by Nicholas Evertson. In 1798 it was sold to Frederick De Peyster, for £1,550.

No. 26 was also Nicholas Evertson's. His executors sold it to Hon. David Gelston in 1808. No. 28 was owned by Jacob Lorillard.

The view on the east side of the street presents only a few houses, about half way between Exchange place and Beaver street. The first house (opposite the pump), is No. 39. This in 1796 was the home of Coenrad W. Ham, "baker." His son, Wandel Ham, purchased it on a partition suit in 1806 for \$8,750, and sold it in 1810 to John N. Luff, "baker," for \$11,000. No. 41, the Dutch house, bearing the date, 1698, was built by Jacobus Quick. It remained in possession of his family and was standing in 1840. No. 43 was the house of Nicholas N. Anthony, "tanner." He sold it in 1799 to Robert Dunn, "mariner," for \$2,433. No. 45 in early days was the home of Wm. Bogardus, son of Rev. Everardus Bogardus (husband of the famous Anake Jans); but the house was evidently built at a much later date. In 1796 it seems to have been owned by Wm. Brown. No. 47, the last house seen in the view, was also owned by Jacobus Quick.

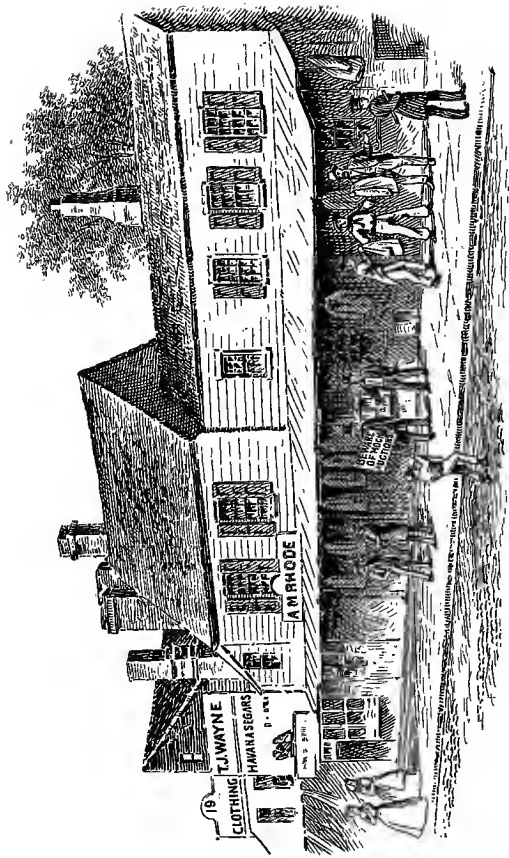
At the head of the engraving is seen a very fine view of the old Federal Hall. The clock spire is that of the First Presbyterian Church on Wall street.

For the view accompanying this article we are indebted to Mr. Gustav H. Schwab.

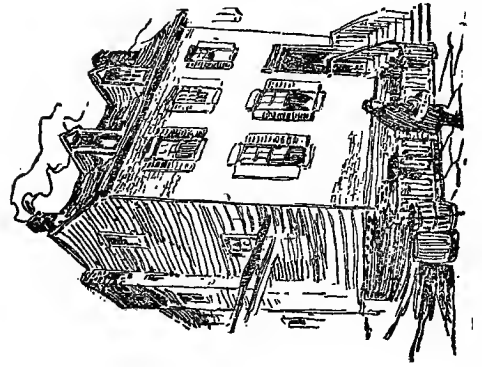


NO. 20-22 BROAD STREET, 1890. 716

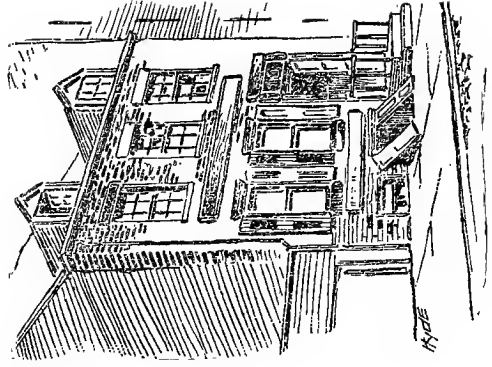
No. 49. ENTRANCE TO BROOKLYN BRIDGE, 1857.



SITE OF THE ENTRANCE TO BROOKLYN BRIDGE IN 1857.



LOUIS CATHEMAN'S HOME, NO. 10 JONES STREET. EXTERIOR OF NO. 70 VANDAM STREET.



THE OLD BURR HOUSE.



ENTRANCE TO BROOKLYN BRIDGE IN 1857



THE picture here given presents a very accurate appearance of the east side of Chatham street (now Park Row), in long past days. The land upon which these squalid and dilapidated buildings stood is a part of the farm owned in early times by the famous and ill-fated Jacob Leisler, whose career and tragic fate forms one of the most interesting and thrilling episodes of our city history. Liquor saloons of the lowest order, and cheap and second-hand clothing formed the principal part of the mercantile transactions of that neighborhood. The picture of the man bearing the placard "BEWARE OF MOCK AUCTIONS," recalls a scheme for defrauding the ignorant and unwary, which was very common at that time. Auction rooms were fitted up and loud-voiced auctioneers, ably assisted by "stool-pigeons," would offer elegant gold watches and jewelry for almost any sum that might be bid. The affair would be conducted with apparent honesty and the customer was allowed to examine the article (which would be a genuine gold watch of the finest kind), as carefully as he wished. His bid

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would be taken, but in the mean time there would be substituted a very cheap gilded article and the customer soon had an opportunity to know that "all is not gold that glitters." So great became this nuisance that a special Act of Legislature was passed to abolish "mock auctions."



Jones street derives its name from Dr. Gardiner Jones, a native of Southampton, Long Island, who by a fortunate marriage with Sarah, daughter of Elbert Haring became the owner of a large part of what is known as the Haring, or Herring farm. He opened Jones street in 1794, and lots readily sold at fair prices for those days, but would now be considered extremely low. Cheap tenements, intended and fitted for cheap tenants, were erected, and No. 10 Jones street is one of the very few yet remaining. This was for years the home of a singular individual, Louis Catheman. He was a Swiss by birth, but came to this country in early youth. He took an active part in the war of the Rebellion and as a member of the First Minnesota Regiment was in seventeen battles and twice wounded. In late years his only business was selling portraits of actors and actresses from the steps of Jefferson Market Police Court. He afterwards returned to his native Alps and died there.



The "ramshackle house," No. 70 Vandam street, stands on the land of Trinity church and in sensational newspapers, is occasionally held up to view as a sample of "Trinity Church

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as a landlord," wilfully ignoring the fact that these unsightly relics of the past are being replaced as rapidly as possible by buildings better adapted to the wants of modern times. We present this simply as a view of a class of tenements that will soon be utterly unknown.



The old house, No. 11 Reade street, is credited with having once been the residence of Aaron Burr, though even in its best days it must have presented a very marked contrast to his elegant home on Richmond Hill. It stands in close proximity to the site of the old Manhattan water works, which Burr was so active in promoting. This ancient house was torn down in 1899 to make way for the new Register's office.



No. 50. UNION THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, UNIVERSITY PLACE.





UNION THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY ON UNIVERSITY PLACE

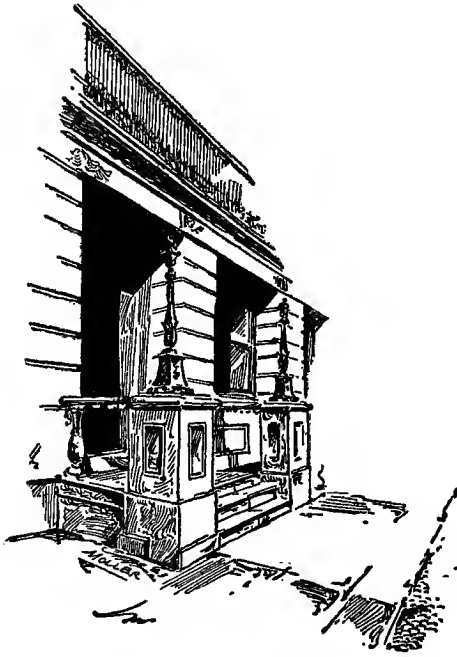


THE land on both sides of University place, from Waverley place to where the Presbyterian church now stands, is a part of the large tract belonging to the Sailors' Snug Harbor and nobly dedicated by its former owner Captain Randall, for the support of aged and enfeebled seamen. On October 20, 1831, the trustees of this institution leased to James R. Manley, four lots, 127 feet north of Waverley place. The street on which they fronted was originally Wooster street, being the continuation of the street of that name. It was afterwards widened and called "Jackson avenue," but after the University of the City of New York was built, the name was changed to University place. The lots above were transferred to Wm. M. Halstead and he conveyed them to the Union Theological Seminary, October 30, 1852. For many years this was the headquarters of theological learning and from its walls were graduated men whose names are famous for learning, eloquence and piety. In after years the institu-

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tion was moved to another locality and for a while the building was used as a teachers' college.

At the present time it remains unoccupied and the sign "To Let" shows that it will soon be devoted to business of a secular nature. The building and the leasehold still belong to the Union Theological Seminary, though the institution has long since removed to the upper part of the city.



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